



Jordan Times

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Shultz ends Soviet visit

MOSCOW (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz left the Soviet Union Sunday to brief American allies on his talks with Soviet officials about next month's superpower summit. The official news agency TASS said Shultz flew out of Tbilisi, the capital of the southern Soviet Republic of Georgia, after a day of sightseeing. He headed for Brussels, Belgium, to brief members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) on his talks in Moscow Thursday and Friday with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Shultz and Shevardnadze reported little progress in the talks, which focused on trying to complete a treaty cutting in half United States and Soviet arsenals of strategic nuclear weapons. The goal had been to complete the treaty by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's trip to Moscow May 29-June 2 for a summit meeting with Gorbachev. But officials have expressed doubt the pact will be ready by then, because too many disagreements remain. Shultz began the weekend in Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, and then headed for Georgia, the home republic of Shevardnadze. TASS said that Sunday, Shultz visited the Metekhi plateau overlooking Tbilisi, as well as the Shveta cathedral.

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Holiday declared

AMMAN (Petra) — All government departments and public institutions in Jordan will be closed next Sunday, May 1, on the occasion of Labour Day, according to an official announcement by the Prime Ministry made Sunday.

Epidemic kills over 1,000 in Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — A meningitis epidemic in Sudan has killed more than 1,000 people since it erupted last month, a Khartoum newspaper said Sunday. The Communist Party's Al Maideen, citing reports reaching the Health Ministry, said the disease killed 1,059 people up to last Thursday and a total of 15,778 cases have been reported nationwide up to Saturday.

Kuwait Airways to resume Asian flights

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait Airways will resume service to Asian destinations Wednesday after a suspension caused by the April 5 hijack of a flight from Bangkok, a spokesman said. He said flights to Karachi, Delhi, Bombay, Colombo and Dhaka would resume Wednesday and those to Bangkok and Manila May 3.

Greece sends message to Turkey

ANKARA (R) — New Greek Ambassador to Nicosia Christos Maharis arrived in Ankara Sunday with a message for Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal from Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu. Ozal told television in breakaway north Cyprus Friday the problem of divided Cyprus had not been dealt with officially in talks earlier this year with Papandreu. But he added that the issue might be discussed unofficially.

Bomb threat on Tel Aviv-bound plane

ATHENS (AP) — An Alitalia jetliner with 144 passengers aboard took off Sunday for Tel Aviv after making a four-hour unscheduled stopover at Athens airport because of a bomb threat. No bomb was found and the jetliner landed in Athens after authorities in Rome were informed that a bomb had been planted aboard the aircraft, police said. An Athens airport spokesman said Rome airport authorities notified the control tower after an anonymous caller told them a bomb would soon blow up the aircraft.

Aquino: No return of Marcos

MARILIA (AP) — President Corazon Aquino said Sunday she has no intention of allowing former President Ferdinand Marcos to return to the country. "I just want our people to know and to reassure them that I will never do anything that will go against the interests of the Filipino people," Aquino said during her weekly radio programme "Ask the President."

SLA frees French television crew

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (R) — Militiamen fired on two Frenchmen employed by a French radio station who by mistake drove towards Israel's self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon, the men said Sunday. "When the SLA fired at us, we raised a white flag," Bernard Carbon of Paris-based radio station Fun said. "They took us to Marjayoun where we stayed the night and now they are letting us go." Carbon, accompanied by his colleague Jean Bernard Christin, added.

Kanaks free 11 captives

PARIS (R) — France said Sunday 11 of 27 paramilitary policemen taken hostage three days ago in New Caledonia had been released peacefully and unarmed. A spokesman at the Paris headquarters of France's paramilitary gendarme force told Reuters that the 11 "were freed after talks which are still going on for the release of the others." (See earlier story on page 9).

Israelis raze Gaza homes, launch new effort to end uprising

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers tore down a dozen Palestinian homes and shops Sunday in a Gaza Strip refugee camp and police ordered Palestinian merchants in Jerusalem to open their stores at normal hours in a new effort to break the nearly five-month Palestinian uprising.

Police in riot gear delivered the new order to shopkeepers along the street of the Prophets just outside the walled Old City as soldiers on horseback kept back curious tourists and passers-by.



A Muslim clergyman confronts Israeli policemen and soldiers in the Haram Al Sharif complex in Jerusalem.

Arafat in Syria after 5-year rift

From Lamis K. Andoni in Damascus

PALESTINE Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived here Sunday on an official visit signalling the success of a drawn-out effort to reconcile the Syrian government and the leadership of the PLO.

Arafat, who was received by the Syrian interior minister and senior officials, was accompanied by Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), a co-founder of the mainstream Fatah movement of the PLO. The PLO leaders went straight to the grave of assassinated PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad) in Yarmouk refugee camp on the

Jordan welcomes Syria-PLO move

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday welcomed the visit to Syria by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat saying that the Kingdom follows a policy that welcomes meetings between Arab parties and the elimination of inter-Arab disputes. In a statement given to radio Monte Carlo and carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Information Minister Hani Khasawneh said Jordan follows a national policy that welcomes inter-Arab meetings and end to inter-Arab disputes. Khasawneh added that this policy was derived from the spirit of the Arab summit held in Amman last November.

outsights of the Syrian capital. Punditism broke out in the camp as news spread that Arafat was expected in the camp a few minutes before the start of the eighth day of the holy month of Ramadan. People were seen running in all directions shouting "Abu Ammar is back," and in less than 10 minutes over 30,000 milled around in the narrow alleys of the camp to greet Arafat. Many people said they had

Tripoli death toll rises to 66

TRIPOLI (Agencies) — The death toll from Lebanon's worst car bombing in three years rose to 66 Sunday after 12 people wounded in the blast died in hospital while a man was dragged injured but alive from a wrecked building, police reported.

A coordination committee, which runs the day-to-day affairs of Lebanon's second largest city, declared two days of public mourning for the victims of Saturday's explosion in a crowded vegetable market.

Police said the number of wounded from the blast in the low-income Tabaneh district of the northern port city was now 114.

Tripoli's eight hospitals were filled to capacity with casualties and morgues were "packed with

corpses," police said. Radio stations broadcast urgent appeals for blood.

Civil defense rescue teams who had clawed through the rubble of wrecked buildings during the night called off their search after dragging the 33-year-old survivor, a grocer, to safety after midnight (2200 GMT Saturday), police reported.

Residents told Reuters some families buried their victims Saturday while others were preparing for burials Sunday.

Other weeping residents were still trying to identify missing relatives among charred bodies in plastic bags at the city's hospitals. The blast was the most destructive in Tripoli since 1985 when at least 52 people were killed and 75 injured by a similar explosion.

Algeria rejects U.S., British criticism over hijack handling

ALGIERS (Agencies) — The Algerian government Sunday sharply rejected American and British criticism of the secret deal by which Algeria allowed the hijackers of the Kuwait Airways Jumbo jet to escape unpunished. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other Western leaders have criticised the Algerian safe conduct given to the hijackers who held the jet for 16 days and killed two of its Kuwaiti passengers before releasing the last 31 hostages unharmed

in Algiers Wednesday. An official statement from the Algerian Foreign Ministry said the American and British protests "sought to exploit the conditions under which the crisis was resolved, to wage a hostile campaign against Algeria, while ignoring the difficult circumstances of (Algeria's) humanitarian intervention."

"This strange attitude, which differs sharply from the general satisfaction expressed around the world, and particularly by the Kuwaiti government, raises serious questions as to its real motivation." Effective international action against terrorism must seek to eliminate not only its immediate manifestations, but also its "deeper causes," the statement declared. The governments of the world, it added, must display solidarity in a "sincere and effective campaign for the promotion and rehabilitation of mankind... while resisting the temptation to resort to verbal outbidding tactics and facile expedients."

Jordan remains one family, one hand, one heart and all have equal rights and obligations as stated in the Constitution

King: Jordan will not act on behalf of Palestinian people or assume PLO role

IRBID (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday hailed the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza and paid tribute to the steadfastness of the Palestinian people living in the occupied territories.

The King also reaffirmed Jordan's stand that the Kingdom will not act on behalf of the Palestinian people or the Palestine Liberation Organisation or seek to replace the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

In a speech at an Iftar banquet he hosted in Irbid Sunday, the King also underlined Jordan's sense of responsibility and duty to defend Arab causes based on the principles of the Great Arab Revolt.

"Jordan will remain a steadfast fortress to its people, Armed Forces and national unity and will continue to be a home for the Jordanian Arab family whose equality, rights and obligations are specified in

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein speaks at an Iftar banquet he hosted in Irbid Sunday (Petra photo)

Iraq issues warning to Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — Iraq charged Iran was trying to reignite the "war of the cities" Sunday and warned Tehran that it "will be the loser."

An Iraqi military spokesman said in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Radio that seven civilians were wounded when the Iranians shelled the Shwabbah residential sector of the northern Iraqi city of Sulaimaniyah.

"This reveals unequivocally the Iranian regime's preplanned intent to reignite the war of the cities," the spokesman was quoted as saying.

He said the shelling violated "the principles according to which" Iraq stopped its missile attacks on Iranian cities last week.

"The Iranian regime will be both the loser and the party held responsible," for a new round of the so-called "war of the cities." An informal truce went into effect in the war of the cities at

midnight (2000 GMT) Wednesday, 15 minutes after Iraq fired two long-range missiles into the Iranian holy city of Qom, saying they would be the last if Iran did not retaliate. Iran withheld fire. The truce ended seven weeks of duels during which the two sides fired hundreds of missiles and bombed each others cities in

air raids. That was the fiercest round of the "war of the cities" in the 7½ year Gulf war.

Iran's official news agency reported that Iranian jets bombed Iraqi troop concentrations at Mehran in the central sector of the front and returned safely to their bases Sunday.

Iranian boats raid Saudi-owned tanker

DUBAI (Agencies) — Six Iranian gunboats attacked a Liberian-flag tanker at the mouth of the Gulf Sunday, one day after President Ronald Reagan warned Tehran it would pay dearly for raids on neutral shipping. Shipping sources said machineguns raked the crew quarters of the Saudi-owned Sea

Trader as it entered the Strait of Hormuz, but no one was injured and damage was not serious.

They said the attack appeared to indicate that Iran, whose navy was mauled in clashes with U.S. warships April 18, was not cowed by U.S. plans to protect all neutral ships in the Gulf.

Reagan said in a radio address Saturday: "Iran must understand that continued military and terrorist attacks against non-belligerents... will be very costly to Iran and its people."

None of the 16 U.S. warships in the Gulf was in the vicinity when the Sea Trader was hit, the sources said.

The United States now protects only U.S.-flag ships, including 11 Kuwaiti tankers, but U.S. officials said the Reagan administration plans to extend protection to all neutral shipping. No final decision on the plan had been taken, they said.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati accused the United States Sunday of trying to block the progress of its Islamic revolution by backing Baghdad in the Iran-Iraq war.

He said on Tehran Radio that U.S. agents in the Gulf region had given financial aid to Iraq and U.S. satellite military information was put at Iraq's disposal.

"The United States has never hidden the fact that it supports the Iraqi government and that government's survival. However, its recent actions have constituted overt U.S. interference to Iraq's advantage," he said.

Velayati said the United States believed its forces had a permanent right to remain in the Gulf but "this is not something which can continue for ever."

Mitterrand wins first round of elections

PARIS (AP) — Socialist President Francois Mitterrand won the first round of the presidential elections Sunday, and conservative Premier Jacques Chirac was second, sending the two men into a runoff election May 8, according to computer projections. French television computer projects are usually very accurate.

As polls closed after the first ballot, private polling organisations put the 71-year-old president strongly in the lead with 33-34 per cent of the vote. Chirac, 55, came in second place with 18-22 per cent.

The leading two contenders will go into the run-off May 8. Nine candidates are running in the race for a seven-year term as president of France.

Centre-right economist Raymond Barre, once seen as Mitterrand's strongest challenger, slumped to a poor third place with 16-17 per cent of first round ballots, the computer figures showed.

Extreme right-winger Jean-Marie Le Pen, who ran a staunch anti-immigrant campaign, made a surprisingly strong showing, win-

ning 13.5-14.8 per cent of the vote — more than pre-election predictions.

He now appears set to poll twice the votes of the Communist Party, whose decline from its position as a major force in national French politics is likely to be confirmed.

Le Pen, the leader of the National Front Party, is on the heels of Barre and is likely to influence the second round.

The final opinion polls a week ago showed Mitterrand defeating Chirac by a comfortable margin in the second round.

Abstentions were estimated at 17.7 per cent among France's 38 million voters.

Rounding out the nine-candidate field was Andre Lajoie, 58, the official Communist Party candidate, with 7.1 per cent; Antoine Waechter, 39, an ecologist, with 3.6 per cent; Pierre Juquin, 58, leader of a splinter communist reformist group, two per cent; Arlette Laguiller, 48, head of the Trotskyist Worker Struggle Movement, two per cent; and Pierre Bousset, 67, leader of the Movement for a Party of Workers, 0.4 per cent.

Kidnappers threaten to kill 2 Americans

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Pro-Iranian kidnappers threatened Sunday to kill two Americans they held hostage in Lebanon if the United States attacked Iran again in the Gulf.

"The American attacks in the Gulf will not pass without punishment," said a statement by the Revolutionary Justice Organisation (RJO), which holds Americans Joseph James Cicippio and Edward Austin Tracy.

"Any new attack under any pretext and no matter what the reasons will lead to the execution of Edward Tracy first and then Cicippio," the statement said.

The hand-written statement in Arabic was delivered to an international news agency in Beirut along with a photocopy of Tracy's residence permit for Lebanon.

"This threat should be considered serious to set new rules for the game in the area," said the

undated statement. "The presence of the American forces in the Gulf is in reality a malicious challenge to the free peoples in the area and a threat to the security of international society," the statement said.

"Our logical response to the invasion of the area leaves us with the only option of moving the battle to inside America," the statement said, without elaborating.

It was issued after the U.S. navy destroyed two Iranian oil rigs and sank or damaged six Iranian gunboats in clashes in the Gulf six days ago. Washington said the oil rig raids were in retaliation for mines laid by Iran, a charge Tehran has denied.

French effort

The conservative Al Diyar newspaper reported earlier Sunday that a deal to free three

French hostages held by another faction fell through when the kidnappers reneged on pledges to release them because the hijackers of a Kuwaiti airliner were still in Algiers.

Kuwaiti officials said when the Algerians negotiated an end to the 16-day hijack drama Wednesday that the hijackers left the plane on condition they were given safe passage to another country.

Al Diyar said the team, headed by former French secret agent Jean-Charles Marchiani and including Lebanese-born Alexandre Saba and Bouris Hankash, had seen the three captives "to make sure they were still alive." The report could not be confirmed.

It quoted Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadalallah, spiritual mentor of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God), as saying he did

Crown Prince visits Indian nuclear centre

BOMBAY (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday visited a nuclear research centre near Bombay and was briefed on its functions and use of nuclear energy to generate electricity.

The Crown Prince, who arrived here Saturday from Japan, and the president of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission discussed possibilities of Jordanian-Indian scientific cooperation, particularly in the use of nuclear energy in agriculture, medicine and industry, and of extracting radium from Jordanian phosphates. India, the largest importer of Jordanian phosphates, uses the phosphates also for extracting uranium.

Jordan to have diplomatic ties with Mali

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will establish diplomatic relations with the African state of Mali at the ambassadorial level, according to an official announcement in Amman Sunday.

The announcement said a Cabinet decision was taken in this respect and that representation would be through non-resident ambassadors.

The Cabinet also announced its approval of a Niger government nomination of its ambassador to Kuwait, Zada Oumo, to serve as Niger's non-resident ambassador to Jordan.

The Cabinet also gave its consent to a visit by a Jordanian educational delegation to Poland.

It also approved the setting up of facilities at Aqaba for unloading cereals imported by Jordan. The project will be financed through a Swedish government loan to Jordan.

The Cabinet also approved of an agreement between a Jordanian transport company and Kuwait for operating a regular passenger transport service between Amman and Kuwait.

indications of a possible release of the Frenchmen."

Other reports said the three hostages were close to release twice over the last fortnight but complications arose because of the hijack of the Kuwaiti airliner which ended in Algiers Wednesday.

The sources said the hijackers had not yet returned to Beirut and the kidnappers may have blocked the release of the Frenchmen until the hijackers were back.

The hijackers and the kidnappers were believed to be from the same Hizbollah clan which had relatives among 17 Arabs jailed in Kuwait for bombing offences, said a source quoted by Reuters.

In Washington, the White House said Sunday U.S. policy would not be affected by "terrorist threats."

Jordan's emerging film industry struggles for recognition

Mariam Shahin quotes director Najdat Anzor on impediments to the film industry in Jordan

DURING a raid on an Arab outlaw somewhere in an Arab desert, an English lieutenant is wounded and taken captive. A search party consisting of British troops and locals attempts to ensure his safe return by whatever means necessary. During his time of captivity with what he has been taught is a savage outlaw, he is exposed to a behaviour so civilised that it remains engraved in his mind for life.

"A Picnic on the Sand," a TV movie made in Jordan, won the bronze medal at the International Television Festival held in Baghdad between March 24 and 30 this year. The film was one of 26 entries in the drama category.

Spain's entry received the gold medal and Japan's the silver. The movie's Director Najdat Anzor recently talked to the Jordan Times about the making of the film and the future of the film industry in Jordan.

"What did you think of the film?" asks Najdat smiling. "If we had a larger budget it would have been better." Filming in Jordan is not an easy task, according to Anzor. The movie which is about an hour and a half long, took a month to film. The filming was entirely done in Wadi Rum. The crew could get there only by Range Rovers. The entire cast and crew stayed in Aqaba, and came to Wadi Rum for the

filming every day. The budget, provided by the Arab Tele-Media Services, was relatively small, when compared with what gets spent on other films.

"One of the problems with the budget was that all props and filming 'accessories' are very expensive in Jordan, if they are available at all," Anzor said.

Some of the scenes written by scriptwriter, Mahmoud Zaidi had to be omitted completely, because of technical difficulties. "We had to find a car from the 1930's," the era in which the film's events take place, "when we finally found one, we had to set flames to it — twice!"

The producer was fortunate enough to get pure Arabian horses, from the stables of Sherif Jamil Ibn Nasser, but, "our

actors did not know how to ride horses.

"Jordanian actors have not been trained for action scenes, the scripts usually limit them to scenes with dialogue only," says Najdat.

The falcon, a main character and a symbol in the film, was rented from the Huwaitat tribe on the Jordanian-Saudi border. "Although usually animals are trained for months for their roles in movies, this falcon was only made available to us for three days. You can imagine what kind of pressure we were under when filming the falcon scenes, which were only accentuated by the sensitivity of the animal itself," Anzor recalled.

Very little encouragement has been given to the film industry in Jordan to develop and progress, according to the director. Private institutions, educational programmes and government ministries have done practically nothing to stimulate this art category. In order to develop any artistic discipline, funds are needed and exchange and training programmes are required.

"If we had the chance to train two people a year in Egypt, the U.S. or any European country that has a well developed motion picture industry, it would be a good start."

He maintains that it did not matter if this support came from private sponsors or from government agencies. What matters is that our local staff gets trained and made more professional. Jordanian actors have also been discouraged by relatively low wages they receive, while non-Jordanian actors are paid much higher wages.

"Local scenarists shoulder some of the burden of our emerging industry as well, an industry that is right now on a crossroad. Traditionally Jordanian scriptwriters have always written about the bedouin or village life in Jordan. Although those subjects are definitely part of our history and culture, the contemporary life that most Jordanians lead is hardly ever touched upon in the local TV series." If each writer-artist deals with a different aspect of contemporary society then we would certainly have a greater variety on the local TV series, he said.

"The Picnic on the Sand," was intended to be symbolic, showing the experience of a foreigner in a foreign land. "Unfortunately," says Anzor, "most Arab countries would not allow viewing of the film because they consider it too anti-British, they do not want to offend anyone. The only countries in the Arab World that have bought the film were Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Libya. Arabs shying away from buying such films "are not very encouraging either," Anzor says.

In time comprehensive themes, trained personnel and funding will join together to make up the essential factors that will develop a film industry to which Jordanian viewers can look forward to.



(Above) director Anzor with his team of horse riders and (below) on location at Wadi Rum



(Above) the entire crew of "A Picnic on the Sand" and (below) Najdat Anzor directs his photographer



TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

14:00 Koran
14:30 Programme review
14:35 Cartoons
14:40 Children's programme
15:00 Religious programme
15:15 Children's programme (The Thousand and One Nights)
15:45 Arabic play
16:30 Programme on Cooking
17:20 Religious programme
17:30 A programme on benefits of fasting (health and fasting)
18:00 Arabic series "Five" (Eps.2)
18:50 Koranic contest
19:00 Religious programme + Koran
19:30 Religious programme
19:35 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Ramadan puzzles
21:30 Arabic programme
22:00 News summary
23:10 Arabic series
24:00 Varieties
01:30 Religious programme

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Louis XI
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine (French)
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Perfect Stranger
21:10 Secret Army
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Death Wish - I"

RADIO JORDAN

835 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 950 KHz. SW Tel: 77111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 News Summary
09:30 Just a Minute
10:00 Good Vibrations
11:00 Readings
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
13:00 Pop Session Contd.
13:05 News Bulletin
14:30 Special Feature
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Young Sound
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Roundup

BBC WORLD SERVICE

609, 720, 1333 KHz

07:00 Newscast 07:30 Behind the Wall
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Waveguide
08:00 World News 08:30 24 Hours
08:35 News Summary 08:50 Nature Notebook 08:55 Recording of the Week
09:00 Newscast 09:30 Six Cities 10:00
World News 10:30 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 Why Should This Happen to Me? 11:00 World News 11:00
Reflections 11:15 Behind the Wall
11:30 Anything Goes 12:00 World News 12:00 British Press Review 12:15
Tech Talk 12:30 Through My Window
12:45 Peckles' Choice 13:00 News Summary followed by Six Cities 13:30
The Vintage Chart Show 14:00 World News 14:00 News About Britain 14:15
Tech Talk 14:30 Album Time 15:00
Radio Newscast 15:15 My World 15:45
Sports Round-up 16:00 World News 16:00
24 Hours: News Summary 16:30
Anything Goes 17:00 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News 17:45 Camera Row 18:00
Radio Newscast 18:15 Sportsworld 18:45 Sportsworld contd.
19:00 World News 19:00 Commentary
19:15 A Journey Round My People
19:30 Big Band — The Singers 19:45
The World Today 20:00 World News 20:00
Book Choice 20:15 Karajan at 80
20:45 Sports Round-up 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30
Multitrack 1: Top 20 22:00 Outlook, opening with News 22:30
Stock Market Report

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1200 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 Hz

07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline America 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Exhibition of photographs of Jordan at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
★ The British Council is showing an exhibition of work by British illustrators. There is also a continuous showing of the video "7 Illustrators at Work" throughout the exhibition.
★ North Korean art exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.
★ Book and Computer exhibition at Zarqa Community College.
★ Plastic Art Festival by 30 Jordanian and Arab artists at Tower Building.

FILM

★ "Charlie Chaplin" collection at 5:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

LECTURE

"Iconoclasm in 8th Century Palestine" by Dr. Robert Schick, Shell Fellow at ACOR at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre for Oriental Research (ACOR).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267
American Centre - Tel. 64371
British Council - Tel. 641520
French Cultural Centre - Tel. 637009
Goethe Institute - Tel. 641703
Soviet Cultural Centre - Tel. 643203
Spanish Cultural Centre - Tel. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre - Tel. 639777
Haya Arts Centre - Tel. 665195
Hussein Youth City - Tel. 661816
Y.W.C.A. - Tel. 641703
Y.W.M.C.A. - Tel. 665251
Amman Municipal Library - Tel. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library - Tel. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman. Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibdeh. Tel. 637440.
St. Basil Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein. Tel. 661757.
Terzian Church (Roman Catholic). Jabel Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel: 622366
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali. Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman. Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601359.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Samir 811295.
Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Inter-denominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605, Rev. Vel.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Aqaba (RJ)
10:20 Larnaca (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:30 Damascus (RJ)
10:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:40 Sana'a, Jeddah (RJ)
10:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)
11:30 Kuwait, Doha (RJ)
11:35 Helsinki (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:35 New York, Vienna (RJ)
19:45 Bangkok (RJ)
19:55 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
06:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

10:20 Sana'a (LH)
10:35 Kuwait (RJ)
10:35 Cairo (MS)
13:00 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
13:20 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
20:15 Beirut (ME)
06:30 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

08:00 Aqaba (RJ)
12:00 Amsterdam, New York (BA)
12:30 Paris (RJ)
12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
13:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
20:30 Kuwait (RJ)
20:35 Jeddah (RJ)
21:00 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:05 Baghdad (RJ)
21:15 Cairo (MS)
21:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (AF)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
09:15 Beirut (MEA)
11:10 Frankfurt (LH)
11:20 Cairo (MS)
14:30 Bahrain (GF)
01:30 Paris (AF)

PRAYER TIMES

04:25 Fajr
05:49 (Sunrise) Doha
12:34 Dhuhur
16:14 'Asr
19:18 Maghrib
20:43 'Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates

Local sell/buy rates in Jds
Belgian franc 177.8 / 180.5
Dutch guilder 58.7 / 59.6
French franc 26.8 / 27.2
Italian lire 267.4 / 272
Japanese yen (for 100) 241.1 / 245.8
Swiss franc 629.3 / 640.2
U.K. sterling/pound 334 / 338.9
U.S. dollar 199.1 / 202.7
W. German mark 202.7

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with chances for scattered showers. Winds will be northwesterly moderate, and there will be slight increase in temperature. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate to fresh and seas calm.

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 18, Aqaba 25. Humidity readings: Amman 51 per cent, Aqaba 41 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273121
Civil Defence Qadisiyah 770753
Civil Defence Dera Aila 57300
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
Blood Bank 73803
Traffic police 8963041
Police headquarters 630341
Fire headquarters 661111
Civil Defence rescue 630341
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08)5330-60

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 81581/332
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642816
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642542
Malkas, J. Amman 636130
Palestine, Shmeisani 641731
Shmeisani Hospital 845845
University Hospital 667277
The Islamic, Abdali 66412737
Al-Ahli, Abdali 641646
Itahan, Al-Muhajreen 771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 7751126
Army, Malka 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 64234030
Amal Hospital 674155

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Khalid Ma'addi 74358
Dr. Ali Al-Zemili 84888
Dr. Yasser Haddad 67546
Dr. Mohammad Al Awad 74135
Piras pharmacy 66191
Ferdows pharmacy 77833
Al Asena pharmacy 63705
Nairoukh pharmacy 62367
Al Salam pharmacy 63673
Yacoub pharmacy 64484
Shmeisani pharmacy 63760

TAXIS

Sa'id taxi 898434
Badr taxi 792511
Aqrabi taxi 87030
Kayali taxi 726036
Ibad taxi 740317
Mu'in taxi 895364

IRRID

Dr. Issam Al-Saleh 274722
Al Shara' pharmacy 275825

ZARQA

Dr. Rafeh Atallah 985338
Khalifah pharmacy 985417

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19
Radio Jordan 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 666176
Telephone Information 12
Jordan and Middle East calls 10
Overseas calls 17
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.		Lemon	
Apple (French)	430 / 360	Marlow	250 / 200
Apple (green)	470 / 400	Marlow	180 / 140
Apple (Lebanese)	300 / 250	Onion (green)	180 / 140
Banana	300 / 240	Onion (dry)	160 / 120
Banana (Mukammal)	300 / 240	Oranges (local)	220 / 180
Beans	240 / 200	Oranges (Shamouti)	— / —
Beans (broad)	140 / 100	Pears	300 / 240
Cabbage	140 / 100	Pepper (hot)	360 / 300
Carrot	170 / 120	Pepper (sweet)	300 / 200
Cauliflower (white)	180 / 140	Potato	130 / 100
Cucumbers	240 / 200	Raddish	— / —
Eggplant (large)	120 / 80	Sprach	140 / 100
Eggplant (small)	180 / 120	Tomatoes	320 / 260
Garlic (green)	220 / 180	Vine leaves	600 / 500

كثيرا في الجبل

RSS study includes use of local raw material

Study on manufacture of insulating material completed

TRAFFIC GAME

لعبة إشارات المرور

100 99 98 97 96 95 94 93 92 91

90 89 88 87 86 85 84 83 82 81

80 79 78 77 76 75 74 73 72 71

70 69 68 67 66 65 64 63 62 61

60 59 58 57 56 55 54 53 52 51

50 49 48 47 46 45 44 43 42 41

40 39 38 37 36 35 34 33 32 31

30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21

20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11

10

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily, published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1974

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13 years of strife

LEBANON this month entered the 13th year of bloodshed and violence. When simmering factional feuds broke out into open warfare in 1975, almost everyone thought the fighting would end in weeks. But now, 13 years of untold suffering and over 175,000 deaths later, peace remains elusive as ever; if anything, the most optimistic optimists tend to see no light at the end of the tunnel. The country has been divided into "cantons"; the economy is in shambles and outside powers are freely pursuing their game of pitting the Lebanese against each other. Above all, the country is almost starving.

The sole hope round the corner for the Lebanese appears to be the presidential elections coming up in September; the hope that things will change with a new president who can launch a new process of national reconciliation. Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, also appears to have pinned some hope that American intervention with the Lebanese might turn things around for the better. Yet, the Arab World cannot but question what price the Syrians will be paying for the American role. History has taught us the enormity of the strings attached to American help, and we cannot ignore the possibility that Washington might be hoping to use the Lebanese card with the Syrians at the expense of the Palestinian cause. Indeed, hopes are far from realities, and no-one needs to be told that Syria, more than anybody else, knows the double-edged nature of dealing with Washington.

At the same time, we hope the U.S. administration — the present one and whichever succeeds it — will accept the reality that the Lebanese strife is a byproduct of the overall Arab-Israeli conflict, and will work towards a comprehensive solution addressing all aspects of the root cause, rather than offering a piecemeal Lebanese solution which, needless to say, cannot last as long as the Palestinian problem remains unaddressed.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Palestinian wrath

SATURDAY was the day of Palestinian wrath declared by the uprising leadership in the occupied Arab territories in the wake of the assassination of Khalil Al Wazir. To ensure its hold over the Palestinians, the Israelis in retaliation imposed a complete siege on 400,000 residents in refugee camps. But Israel does not realise that Palestinian wrath will not last for a day or two, but will continue and will escalate until the Palestinian people have regained their rights and their usurped lands. This means that Israel should expect more violent protests against Israel's crimes, and that the wrath will last as long as the occupation persists and as long as the Israelis continue their repressive measures against the Arab population. The Palestinians are not the only Arab people whose wrath had been aroused as a result of the assassination of the Palestinian leader, and Israel should realise that its actions are drawing more and more anger and more violent actions from the Arab World as a whole. The Arabs should know for their part, that the Israelis are rejecting all bids for peace and that it is incumbent upon them to develop their concerted actions and undertake measures to confront all eventualities resulting from any new Israeli adventure or any form of aggression. If the Arabs are serious about deterring Israel from committing further atrocities, they should adopt a new and more firm stand that can force the Israeli enemies and their allies to accept the idea of genuine peace.

Al Dustour: Massacre of the innocent

THE horrible blast that caused the loss of innocent life in the Lebanese city of Tripoli represents a new evidence that the crisis in the embattled country is far from being settled. The explosion is an indication that the conflicting factions are still adamant in their positions and are unwilling to reach a compromise that would make their countrymen live in peace. There is no more need for identifying the group behind the blast, nor is it necessary to point an accusing finger to those who work in the dark to wreck the Lebanese society, as long as the heads of the factions and the leaders of the warring groups are bent on rejecting peace bids and are determined to keep the country in abject poverty and in a state of complete despair. Perhaps what is most sinister about the blast in the Lebanese city is that it took place at a time when a flurry of diplomatic and political activity is underway to secure agreement among political parties on the coming presidential election. This blast could be a harbinger for a series of bloody explosions that would ruin all attempts to lead Lebanon out of the present dilemma. This blast could be seen as an indication that the Lebanese crisis is bound to escalate and aggravate; and that more Lebanese people will pay the price of their leaders' obstinacy. We feel horrified and deeply pained to see innocent people fall victim to terrorism, and we appeal to the Lebanese leaders and people to take lessons from the past events, and speed up efforts towards reconciliation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Horror, bloodshed

LEBANON was Saturday again the scene of horror and bloodshed with the car bomb blast that occurred in the northern city of Tripoli. It seems that criminal elements are bent on implementing the destruction of Arab society in Lebanon and in the Arab World through more atrocities and more crimes. It is indeed horrible to see the Lebanese people suffering from criminal actions following all those years of bloodshed and civil war, and it is revolting to see such despicable crimes committed against innocent residents. The enemies of the Arab Nation are bent on destroying the Arab order, and they find in Lebanon a fertile soil for carrying out their criminal mission. The new crime and the mass murder committed in Tripoli prompts us to ask questions about the future of Lebanon, and to wonder about the fate of the Lebanese society and the innocent women and children in the streets of Lebanese cities. Since the Arab order is at stake, and since the enemies of the Arab World are still active and bent on causing harm to the Arab Nation, Arab countries should not remain impassive. It is time for the Arab leaders to exert all their efforts and to take all appropriate measures to stop further terrorism from being practiced by Israel and Iran against a sister Arab state.

Time for new Arab strategy?

By Waleed Sadi

HAVE the Palestinian freedom fighters on the West Bank and Gaza Strip become mere gladiators for the Arab World to watch in admiration and clap for with pride? After four months of unrelenting Palestinian revolt against Israeli occupation and oppression, Arab reaction to the glorious Palestinian revolt seems to be confined to cheering and offers of blessings. To put it a bit more bluntly, the Arab World appears to view its role in the context of the Palestinian uprising as a spectator among several other spectators and to make pious judgments every now and then.

What is most upsetting also is the fact that the Arab World appears to pin complete hope on the ability of the uprising Palestinians to achieve and obtain what several Arab armies had failed to do over a span of four decades. It is noteworthy to recall that the leaders of the uprising never entertained such high aspirations on their own. The obvious intention and purpose of the Palestinian uprising was and still is to awaken the Arab World first, the Israeli second and the international community third, to their enslavement, occupation and unyielding aspiration for liberation and liberty.

In other words, the intentions were to have the uprising play the role of a catalyst which would galvanise inter-Arab action, crystallise world opinion and challenge Israeli public conscience with a view to realising a viable and durable peace formula with which all the parties to the conflict can live with in honour. The forces that were unleashed by the Palestinians never intended to accomplish by themselves the national feat of driving the invading Israeli armies from the occupied Arab territories.

On the basis of the aforementioned, one would have thought that the Arab World could offer the Palestinian insurrection the kind of support and solidarity that could cement the organic links between

the Palestinian Arabs and the rest of the Arab peoples. After all, the struggle being waged by the Palestinians could continue for many months, even years, and in the end it may assume bloodier proportions and dimensions. What is to become of the uprising if it is to be actively unattended by the Arab countries? For how long can it feed on itself and sustain its strength, vitality and dynamism without sound Arab support? And even more pressing are the challenges that could emerge upon the termination of the uprising. Surely it cannot go on indefinitely and there will come a day when the Arab World, the Palestinians especially, will have to reckon with its sweet fruits and bitter limitations. No true Arab nationalist would want the uprising to extinguish itself without attaining at least its principal objectives.

We have seen already what effect the Palestinian uprising has had on the Arab World. In a nut shell, the effect on the Arab World leaves much to be desired if one values reactions in real and meaningful ways. On the Israeli side, one can argue that the unfolding of the Palestinian drama over the past four months has had some positive effect on the Israelis in the sense that it has helped to awaken the Israeli public conscience to the Palestinian yearning for liberty and recognition.

In specific terms, however, the Palestinian revolt has contributed to the double phenomenon of softening the doves on the Israeli scene and the hardening of the hawks among them. Many observers contend that the rightists in Israel have gained the upper hand in the wake of the Palestinian revolt. It is, in fact, premature to draw hasty conclusions on that score. If anything, the Palestinian uprising may have rendered Israel, country and people more amenable to a solution which could relieve them from responsibility for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Deep in their hearts the Israelis realise that

even if there were a respite in the Palestinian uprising, it is bound to erupt once again as soon as the Palestinians consolidate their gains and regain their strength and energy.

The real problem and challenge lie in the heartland of the Arab World, where, as mentioned above, the Palestinian uprising has succeeded in provoking only cheers and poetic outbursts. The fear is that as long as there is no crystallisation of inter-Arab programmes of action to help rescue the struggling Palestinians from their sufferings, the Palestinians under occupation may despair and take things into their own hands, one way or another. Clearly the populace of the West Bank and Gaza are dismayed by what they have been receiving from the Arab World. What is still ominously lacking is the articulation of a coherent collective Arab policy vis-a-vis the uprising. The absence of genuine cohesion in the Arab ranks must be most troubling to them.

Now, in view of the fact that the Shultz peace plan has suffocated itself, it would be most advisable to convene an Arab summit to deal with the aftermath of the debacle that is brewing in the wake of the demise of that peace initiative.

Time is therefore overdue for fresh strategic rethinking on the part of the Arab World to confront the consequences of the aborted U.S. peace formula. The Arab countries can no longer afford to bury their heads in the sand and pretend that time will eventually resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict on our terms and conditions. It must dawn on us in the Arab World that reliance on the justness of our case in conjunction with our offer of peace would never assure success and triumph.

What we need most now is the drawing up of a common and well-coordinated new strategy to confront the Arab-Israeli conflict head on and on the basis of new bold guidelines.

Afghan Mujahedeen intensify war, squabble over interim government

By Scheherezade Faramarzi
The Associated Press

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — With only a few weeks left before the start of a Soviet troop pullout from Afghanistan, Afghan guerrilla leaders are stepping up their military operations against the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

They also are pressing their efforts to set up a provisional government to rule Afghanistan after what they expect will be an eventual guerrilla victory. But despite efforts to create an appearance of unity, the various Mujahadeen guerrilla groups continue to debate among themselves over what the government should be like.

Under the Geneva accords signed April 14, the Soviet Union is to withdraw its troops within one year. This will leave the Kabul government, without Soviet troop support, facing the guerrillas.

Since the Geneva agreement was signed, the Mujahadeen — who were excluded from a direct role in the Geneva talks — have reported conducting about a dozen operations against the

Kabul government's army. The guerrillas say they killed or wounded more than 160 Afghan government troops and 20 Soviets in those attacks.

"What is clear is that in the current month and, especially, since the signing of the Geneva accord, a significant number of enemy military and command posts have fallen to the Mujahadeen," Mujahadeen leader Burhanuddin Rabbani said in an interview.

"And we expect the attacks to increase" until the Soviet-backed government in Kabul is overthrown, said Rabbani, leader of the guerrilla Jamiat-I-Islami Party.

"These are the last days of the war," asserted Hamed Karzai, spokesman for the moderate National Liberation Front. "As in any war, toward its end, fighting intensifies. Both sides try to establish their hegemony."

Interim government?

The Kabul government has spoken of forming an "interim government" of national reconciliation that would include its own representatives, the Mujahadeen and other Afghans. But the

Mujahadeen have balked at such an arrangement, preferring, for now, to organise for an outright Mujahadeen triumph.

Rabbani said that soon after the Geneva accord was signed by the United States, the Soviet Union, Pakistan and Afghanistan, the Mujahadeen gave orders to all field commanders to launch attacks on enemy strongholds.

He said since the accord stipulates that Pakistan, headquarters for the guerrillas, should refrain from aiding the guerrillas, the Mujahadeen have begun setting up new military bases inside Afghanistan.

On the political front, despite some disagreements among the leaders of the seven-party guerrilla alliance, a Mujahadeen-run "provisional government" has held its first session under Ahmad Shah, its president.

Shah, a 44-year-old engineer with the headline Irtihad Islamic Party, said in an interview that the 14-member cabinet will meet once a week to outline programmes and plans for setting up the government inside Afghanistan. The cabinet answers to a supreme council of guerrilla leaders. The cabinet so far has decided

to send three delegations within the next week to different areas in Afghanistan to find a safe place to base the provisional government.

However, Sebaghatullah Mojadeddi, leader of the Afghan National Liberation Front, is wary of the provisional government in its present form.

"How can we have a government when it has not been approved by the people?" he said. "We will have problems in the future. Up to 700,000 Afghans are armed and when the government is weak, there are going to be clashes and bloodshed."

He noted that Shi'ite Muslim groups, who are not represented in the provisional government, will be among the disgruntled. Most Afghans are Sunni Muslims.

Divided over elections

The parties also are divided over the form of elections to be held for approving an interim government. Some want elections among the 3.5 million Afghan refugees camped in Pakistan, while others favour balloting among the Mujahadeen inside

Afghanistan, as well as the refugees, for a 216-member council to confirm the government.

This council would draw two members from each of the 28 provinces and command districts in Afghanistan.

Another alternative calls for the formation of a 75-member consultative assembly made up of religious scholars, intellectuals, technocrats, scientists, and the Mujahadeen, to replace the 21-man supreme council.

According to Shah, however, confirming the provisional government is secondary. Of more immediate concern, he says, is organising militarily to assure that the Kabul government will fall in the shortest period of time and deciding "how to present our government on the political level to the world and how to convince Islamic countries and others to recognise our government."

Rabbani sees the provisions of the Geneva accord as a drawback.

"The Geneva accord brought about a lot of problems," he said, including the question of refugees returning while the war goes on and the possibility of a cutoff or decrease in humanitarian aid.

"The Mujahadeen may no longer receive the same political and military support from the world," Rabbani said. "False propaganda may, after the Geneva accord, give the impression that following Soviet withdrawal, fighting inside Afghanistan is an internal conflict. Therefore we will not get help. We will be isolated."

The guerrillas say there is no chance for a reconciliation with Afghan President Najib and his Communist supporters.

They differ, however, on the question of how to deal with the Communists, including Najib, if they are overthrown. They believe this will happen three months to a year after the withdrawal of the estimated 115,000 Soviet troops.

Alliance chief Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the most extreme of the Mujahadeen leaders, has called for Najib and other senior Communist officials to be put on trial. Mojadeddi, however, says that if Najib and other Communists "repent" and "embrace Islam" or promise not to "wage war against Islam," they ought to be pardoned.

"This is not the time for revenge," he said.

French setback highlights plight of hostages

By John Baggaley
Reuters

BAHRAIN — When Beirut airport cleared a Falcon 50 jet for take-off to France this weekend, it underlined the unpredictable plight of hostages being held in Lebanon.

Three Frenchmen, whose freedom could have provided a political coup to contender Prime Minister Jacques Chirac one day ahead of presidential elections, were left behind to an uncertain fate shared by at least 23 other foreigners.

Disappointed French negotiators flew home after a last minute snag prevented them from freeing Marcel Fontaine, Marcel Carton and Jean Paul Kauffmann from three years of captivity.

The three — two diplomats and a journalist — are among dozens of foreign nationals who have been seized in the war-torn country since 1984 in an epidemic of kidnapping. More than two dozen are still held.

The victims, mainly diplomats, churchmen, teachers and journalists, were seized by gunmen pressing political demands, airing grievances, seeking cash or sometimes due to mistaken identity.

Varied motives have added to the emotional pressures on relatives and governments, and to the uncertainty about the safety of those held, some in Beirut's sprawling suburbs and some outside the city.

In the four years since the kidnapping epidemic began, some victims have scarcely had time to become accustomed to captivity. For others, the years pass with no end in sight. The longest-held victim, American Terry Anderson, the Middle East bureau chief of the Associated Press news agency has been missing since March 16, 1985.

The lack of any pattern to kidnapping is shown by the long list of victims. The first to be seized in 1984 was the Saudi Arabian consul Hussein Farash, grabbed on January 17 and held by Islamic Jihad until May 1985.

Two Americans were the next victims of gunmen — Malcolm Kerr, the president of the American University of Beirut (AUB), was shot and killed on January 18. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility and warned the next day it would strike again until all Americans and French quit the country.

Another AUB man was luckier. Frank Regier, an electrical engineering professor, was abducted in February but freed two months later.

Two 16-year-olds, the twin sons of the Kuwaiti embassy health counsellor, were the next victims, seized one day in February and released the next.

On March 16, William Buckley, a 57-year-old American political officer, was kidnapped. Nearly 19 months later, the pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (holy war) announced his "execution." His body has not been found.

Other killings — announced as "executions" — have provided grim proof that freedom is only one possibility.

British journalist Alec Collett, 64, was taken in March 1985 and a year later, April 1986, the revolutionary organisation of socialist Muslims announced his "execution by hanging." Again, no body was found.

The same month, the body of Peter Kilburn, the 60-year-old American librarian at AUB, was found, with a note nearby from Arab commando cells. Islamic Jihad initially claimed his kidnapping but later dropped his name from all statements.

Islamic Jihad also claimed, then denied, seizing Denis Hill, a British AUB teacher, on May 27, 1985. His body was found the next day.

The proliferation of factional groups has meant nationality, background, position, or political ideology were no guarantee of safety in the strife-torn country. A Canadian relief worker, an Italian businessman, two British women — an unusual departure from the norm of kidnappings — were seized during August and

September 1985. The women were freed the next month.

Four Soviet embassy staff were kidnapped on September 30, 1985, with the Islamic liberation organisation Khaled Ibn Al Walid forces claiming responsibility.

Three were freed a month later but one, Arkady Katkov, 32, embassy consular secretary, was shot dead on October 2.

Another group, calling itself the "organisation of the oppressed in the world," announced on December 24, the Christian Christmas eve, it had killed Jew Haim Cohen Halala, seized in Beirut. His body was later found.

A week later, the "organisation" said it killed a second kidnapped Jew, Isaac Tarrab.

Photographs of Haggard captives have kept the plight of the captives in the public eye. They are sent to authenticating warnings of trial or "execution," to pressure governments to meet demands, or to warn them off some particular policy.

Pictures have been sent to prove the determination of the captors. Islamic Jihad issued a statement early in 1986 accompanied by photographs of the body of kidnapped victim Michel Serrail. He was seized in May, 1985.

Efforts to free the kidnapped have involved tortuous negotiations. The most notorious was the Iran-contra scandal which aimed to exchange U.S. hostages in Lebanon for arms for Iran and cash for Central American guerrillas.

British church envoy Terry Waite, appeared to lead a charmed life as he shuttled between east and west Beirut. Then he vanished, presumably kidnapped.

The tricky nature of any negotiation is well demonstrated by the scandal that shocked the Reagan administration and led to Waite presumably joining captives he was attempting to free. Money sometimes works. The fighting revolutionary cells demanded a \$10-million ransom for a kidnapped South Korean who was later released.

U.S. considers sending coast guards to Gulf

WASHINGTON (AP) — The deployment of coast guard vessels in the Gulf has been raised again at the Pentagon, a Defense Department official confirmed Saturday night.

"It was the brainchild of the commandant of the coast guard last year and it went nowhere," said the official, who asked that he not be identified by name. "It was raised again last week. I don't know how serious it is."

A defense department spokesman, Major Randy Morger, said he had no information on the report.

The New York Times said in its Sunday edition that the coast guard vessels would assist larger warships in escorting merchant vessels, keeping watch over sea lanes to prevent the laying of mines and guarding offshore installations from attacks by small

craft. The vessels also would free larger ships from routine patrols, the paper said.

The Times quoted unidentified Pentagon officials as saying they did not know how many or precisely what kind of coast guard vessels would be sent if Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci approved the plan.

The coast guard is eager to assume a role in the Gulf operations, officials told the Times.

The idea of using coast guard vessels had been proposed last October but was rejected by then Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

The Reagan administration expanded its naval presence in the Gulf last summer at the request of Kuwait.

President Reagan, saying it was essential to protect freedom of

navigation in international waters, announced the navy would protect any Kuwaiti-owned tankers that were re-registered to fly the U.S. flag. Ultimately, 11 Kuwaiti ships were re-flagged.

On Friday, administration officials said the Reagan administration has decided to expand its policy to allow U.S. warships to aid neutral merchant ships under attack.

The change resulted from the mining of the U.S. frigate Samuel B. Roberts April 14 and last Monday's extensive fighting between Iranian and U.S. forces, the officials said.

In that fighting, U.S. forces sank or crippled six Iranian vessels that challenged them after they destroyed two offshore platforms in retaliation for the mining of the Roberts.

Despite the change in policy, the Pentagon hopes that it can avoid the assignment of additional ships to the Gulf, the officials said.

The Pentagon recently has deployed the following numbers and types of ships in the Gulf: two command ships, one cruiser, one destroyer, six frigates, six mine-sweepers, and an amphibious landing ship.

The department announced last week that the navy was deploying 13 ships to the Gulf region but said it was part of a long-planned and routine series of rotations. Pentagon spokesman Dan Howard said he announced the ship movements to head off speculation that the United States had decided to increase the size of its Middle East force.

King: Jordan will never seek to replace PLO

(Continued from page 1) the Jordanian Constitution," the King said.

The King expressed pride over the steadfastness of Iraq in the face of Iranian aggression and its defence of Arab soil and sovereignty.

Following are major excerpts from His Majesty's speech:

"I have always tried and will always continue to perform my duties under these difficult circumstances in the face of challenges and dangers which threaten the present and future of the Arab Nation. I am well aware of the responsibility that we all carry towards our future generations and the responsibility to defend the truth and homeland as well as the entire Arab Nation."

"I believe that our country, through its strategic location and the efforts of its citizens who are carrying the message and flag of the Great Arab Revolt, is now at a stage where it can perform its duty towards the Arab Nation in a satisfactory way and has become the centre of reliability for all."

"Everybody in the Arab Nation knows that we have no ambitions or objectives or concealed designs, and our goal is to nothing but to fulfill our duty to the Arab Nation, with the help of God, will be strong in the face of challenges and will be capable of overcoming the difficult tests in the face of the malicious big powers surrounding us."

"The steadfast Arab Iraq, through its sacrifices in the eight-year-old war, not only defends its land and existence but also the Arab Nation."

"Near us on the other side are our brethren, who, after 20 years of occupation, have started this magnificent uprising which groups the young, old, women, children and men in a heroic stand in the face of occupation and its oppressive practices."

"In every place, we find the Arab citizen following the path of steadfastness, never succumbing to despair since despair will never find its way to the soul of the faithful."

"As we stand with all our resources and power by the side of our brethren we are performing our duty towards them and towards ourselves and towards future generations."

"We are always continuously working to build our strength as God has told us in the Koran."

"If we look back and remember previous years we will find that:

"— In 1948 the Arab Army numbered 6,500 including every rank. Now the Armed Forces number 120,000 soldiers under arms. In addition, there are the reserves, the Popular Army and the modern arms in the hands of the faithful capable to work with them in the best manner to defend the land and preserve this country's status as a shield for the Arab Nation and its rights."

"We have achieved great developments in all aspects and venues of life... as a result of determination, understanding and sincerity. We pray God continue to guide us to achieve our aims."

"We stand by our brethren under all circumstances."

"If there is to be a political solution to the central cause of our problem — the Palestinian question — it is inevitable that this should be achieved through an international peace conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties involved in the conflict, including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

"Jordan shall never replace the Palestinians or seek to assume the role of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Yet, Jordan is willing to go the

international conference in a joint delegation with the Palestinians if the involved parties — I mean the Palestinian side and our brethren elsewhere in the Arab World — agree."

"We have stood firm with the tide of the Great Arab Revolt in the face of evil designs against the Arab identity of Palestine and the rights of our brethren in the Palestinian soil. We support our brethren with all our capabilities and resources. This is our duty and this is our fate."

"As we stand by our brethren in the occupied territories and on the side of Iraq which defends the Arab Order, we also stand by the side of every Arab brother who faces aggression and we in Jordan remain one family, one hand and one heart. Every single person in this land is a member

of this family and every person, regardless of the place his ancestors came from, is an Arab of this land and has his place in this family and in this march. Every person knows that he has obligations as much as he has rights and respect as specified in the Constitution of this country and we all stand with one hand and one heart, facing any attempt to dismember and weaken us and infringe upon our national unity."

Sunday's Iftar banquet in Irbid was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, former prime ministers, the chief of the Royal Court, the chief chamberlain, the Armed Forces commander-in-chief, members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, former ministers and prominent officials in the governorate and tribal leaders.

Arafat arrives in Syria

(Continued from page 1)

noticed unusual security precautions in the camp by Sunday evening and most had assumed that visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati might be passing through the area. But, by late evening "security" was so intensified that there was no doubt that Abu Ammar was coming," said a resident.

It was clear from the short time it took such a big crowd to gather around the PLO leader that many had not bothered to finish their iftar meal. They lifted the car that Arafat was in and carried him to their shoulders to the grave to Abu Jihad where he paid respects to his deputy who was gunned down in Tunis April 16.

Demonstrators chanting Palestinian nationalist slogans took to the streets and singing and dancing continued late into the night to mark the occasion of the visit of Arafat, who was expelled from Syria five years ago after a feud with the Syrian leadership.

The long-awaited reconciliation meeting between Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Arafat was expected to take place late Sunday or Monday, according to informed sources. The sources said Syria had sent an official invitation to Arafat late Saturday.

"There is an official decision that PLO-Syrian relations should be normalised despite the differences," said the source.

Reports from Lebanon said that in Beirut's refugee camps, which bore the brunt of the feud, Syrian-PLO fighters fired their automatic weapons in the air in a show of joy that Arafat was in Syria.

The PLO chairman flew in from Libya. He was accompanied by other senior PLO officials apart from Abu Iyad as well as Libya's Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Bou Bakr Younes.

Asked if he would meet with Assad, Arafat told reporters: "Inshaallah."

Washington studies Chinese stand on Iran arms

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is studying the Chinese reaction to U.S. attacks on Iranian targets in the Gulf to see if Peking has reversed its willingness to go along with an arms embargo against Iran, officials said.

Winston Lord, the U.S. ambassador in Peking, informed Chinese authorities about the U.S. decision to retaliate against Iran for a mine explosion that damaged an American warship, and discussed the issue with Chinese authorities, said the U.S. officials, speaking Saturday on condition of anonymity.

The United States has been pushing other Security Council members to enact an arms embargo against Iran for refusing to accept a call by the council for a truce in the 7½-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

While lobbying for the embargo, the United States has sought continuous reassurances from China that it will not exercise its veto power if the rest of the Security Council approves the ban.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said during a visit to Washington last month that his government thought the ban was a poor idea, but would not block it.

In their latest comments, the Chinese repeated their view that an arms embargo would be a mistake and expressed concern that the clashes in the Gulf are creating an improper atmosphere for U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's mediation efforts, the officials said.

The Chinese did not say point blank they would veto an arms embargo, "one official said. Nevertheless, he said, some U.S. government experts believe the Chinese comments may represent a step away from their earlier vow of passivity."

China's concern about an Iranian arms embargo is more than diplomatic. Its arms industry has sold billions of dollars of weapons to both sides in the Iran-Iraq war, including Silkworm anti-ship missiles that have been fired at vessels in the Gulf.

Mestiri: Peace prospects died with Abu Jihad

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Tunisia's foreign minister said in comments published Sunday that the assassination of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) deputy military commander Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad) had killed Middle East peace.

But Foreign Minister Mahmoud Al Mestiri told the Gulf daily Al Itihad some way should be found of bringing Israel to a peace settlement and this was probably in American hands.

"The only problem the peace process has is one enemy, which is Israel," he said.

"A peace settlement was killed ... by different Israeli positions. The last one which definitely killed it was the killing of Abu Jihad," he added.

Abu Jihad was gunned down in Tunis eight days ago in what Israeli sources have said was a government-sanctioned operation.

Mestiri said he did not expect an Arab summit, planned for Algiers in June, to discuss a U.S. regional peace plan unveiled in February by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

"Israel has rejected the plan. There is no sense in the Arabs accepting something which is already rejected," Mestiri said.

"But we probably should have another way of bringing Israel (to peace) and this way is in American hands."

Al Itihad interviewed Mestiri at the United Nations where a Security Council session, called by Tunisia after Abu Jihad's murder, has been postponed.

Mestiri said a U.S. veto of a Tunisian draft resolution condemning Israel could create problems in his country's relations with Washington.

Israeli version

A U.S. news magazine Saturday quoted Israeli sources as saying Abu Jihad was assassinated because he was planning a new "guerrilla offensive" against Israel and its supporters.

U.S. News and World Report, in its latest issue, quoted the Israeli sources as saying Abu

Jihad struck deals with Libya and unnamed East European spy agencies to restore PLO combat capability.

The sources said the PLO then planned to "launch a major new series of attacks against Israel itself and Israeli interests and supporters in other countries, including the United States."

The magazine said some foreign security specialists doubt key aspects of the Israeli version of the story and the Zionist state's reasons for revealing it.

The magazine quotes one Western official as saying: "It has self-serving aspects. Involves a strange bunch of bedfellows and doesn't make sense for the PLO at this time."

The officials also are sceptical of Abu Jihad's alleged presence at meetings with leaders he has fought for years, and whether the Mossad, Israel's notorious secret agency, could identify precise details of plans for joint actions by Arab groups, according to the magazine.

"But Israeli sources insist that the reasons for hitting Abu Jihad — and striking now — were compelling," U.S. News says.

Demjanjuk defence mounts effort

TEL AVIV (AP) — John Demjanjuk's defence team has mounted a desperate effort to block a death sentence for the retired Ohio autoworker convicted of Nazi war crimes.

But the death penalty is expected Monday from the three Israeli judges who pronounced Demjanjuk guilty last week in a sweeping verdict that rejected all defence arguments.

"This verdict paved the way for a death sentence. I would be very surprised if the judges gave Demjanjuk anything less than death," Yossi Hassin, a government-appointed trial spokesman, told the AP.

In their 450-page judgment, the tribunal convicted Demjanjuk "without hesitation or doubt" of being the brutal guard "Ivan the terrible," saying he "killed masses of human beings with his own hands" at the Treblinka death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland.

Only one man has ever been executed in Israel. Adolf Eichmann was convicted and hanged in 1962.

Defence attorney John Gill says that at Monday's hearing, he will emphasise the fallibility of human memory and introduce 350 cases from as

early as 1693 in which people later found to be innocent were convicted and sentenced to death.

In 62 per cent of the cases, the wrongful conviction was due to mistaken identity, Gill said.

But that argument has already been rejected by the judges, who in their verdict gave great weight to the survivors' testimony and praised their "reliability... and excellent memories."

Justice Minister Avraham Shafir urged the death penalty for Demjanjuk, saying "a man convicted of such terrible crimes deserves no other sentence."

Some Israelis believe the death penalty will be imposed but not executed.

But Demjanjuk's son-in-law Ed Nishnic, who raised \$650,000 for Demjanjuk's defence, said he doesn't expect clemency.

"The Israelis are killing Palestinians like they were open game," Nishnic said, referring to Arabs killed during the five-month uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"Israel is going to do with John whatever suits its purpose. It doesn't care what the rest of the world thinks of its judicial system."

Israelis raze Gaza homes

(Continued from page 1)

A six-day curfew also was ended on more than a dozen towns and refugee camps. But curfews were extended for a seventh day on three towns in the West Bank and a refugee camp in Gaza.

A spokesman said the curfew in the Bourej refugee camp was to allow soldiers to destroy buildings allegedly put up without permits. Arab reports said eight

houses and four shops were destroyed and stone barricades erected by protesters were moved off roadways.

The army spokesman would not specify what buildings were torn down, and the Arab reporters said they did not know if the buildings were bulldozed or blown up.

In Arab Jerusalem, about 30 police, some in riot helmets and

carrying clubs and automatic rifles, issued orders to shopkeepers opposite Damascus Gate to stop following the instructions of uprising leaders to open their shops only from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Police had ordered about 25 merchants along the street to open from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, but the merchants defied the order and threw open their shop doors only at the hours set

by the underground leaders. A police spokesman said the new police orders issued Sunday specified that the stores must be closed from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. beginning Monday, and several shopkeepers said they were confused by the conflicting orders.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said Saturday that the uprising would continue until there was an independent Palestinian state.

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AMMAN JORDAN

Reagan predicts Congress to sustain veto on trade bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan predicted Saturday that Congress will uphold his intended veto of a sweeping world trade bill expected to be sent to his desk in the coming week.

Senate Democratic leader Robert C. Byrd, however, urged the president to sign the bill because "it is no time to dilly-dally" on the trade issue.

The bill would strengthen laws against foreign unfair trade practices, "expand" protection for workers who lose their jobs because of imports, give the president authority to negotiate a new global trade agreement and punish the Toshiba Corp. and a Norwegian company for selling sensitive technology to the Soviets.

Reagan and Byrd exchanged views in the president's weekly radio address and the weekly Democratic response to the presidential talk.

"Some in Congress have put together legislation that would damage our ability to compete with our trading partners," the president said. "Everyone talks

about wanting a level playing field, but what Congress would be doing is putting American industries and workers on the field with one hand tied behind their backs."

"I have made it very clear to Congress that I will veto this bill and I am confident that my veto will be sustained," he said.

"Then I will work vigorously to secure responsible trade legislation and urge the congressional leadership to schedule prompt action on the new bill," Reagan said.

Byrd told his radio audience, "we are at the 11th hour when it comes to dealing with our nation's trade deficit. This is no time to dilly-dally (delay)."

The majority leader took aim at Reagan's opposition to a provision in the bill that would require businesses with more than 100 employees to give 60 days' notice

before closing a plant or instituting mass layoffs. Reagan says this provision, supported by organized labour, would damage the competitive position of American business and cause the loss of American jobs.

Byrd, however, called the provision "simple justice, simple decency."

"Right now, many workers get only a week or two or a day or two of warning that their jobs are about to disappear," he said. "About a third of all American workers get no notice at all."

"If the president stands up for America, he will sign the trade bill," said Byrd. "If the president vetoes the trade bill he will be sending another message: The big boys with the golden parachutes count more than the little guy."

It takes a two-thirds majority of both houses of the U.S. Congress to pass a bill into law over a veto by the president.

The House of Representatives passed the measure 312-107 Thursday. A vote in the Senate is expected in mid-week.

Bank of New York holds 46 per cent of Irving, extends offer

NEW YORK (R) — The Bank of New York (BONY) said Saturday it had 46.6 per cent of the shares of Irving Bank and had extended its hostile tender offer for five days.

The new deadline is next Wednesday at 5 p.m. (220 GMT). The announcement was the latest move by BONY to beat out Irving's newly found white-knight, Banca Commerciale Italiana (BCI), for control of the company.

BONY said that as of the close of business Friday, 7,684,394 Irving shares, or 46.6 per cent, had been validly tendered and not withdrawn.

Irving has been fighting BONY's advances since September 1987. Analysts value BONY's takeover offer for all Irving shares — 1.575 million shares of common stock and \$15 cash per Irving share — at about \$65.

BONY has set several conditions which must be met before it is obligated to control Irving,

including elimination of "poison pill" provisions in Irving's bylaws.

BONY is also waging a proxy fight to gain control of Irving's board of directors.

Irving lawyer Irving Falise told Reuters at the company's annual meeting Saturday at BONY's tender offer extension was a clear attempt to buy time to acquire the 50 per cent of Irving it needs to force a merger.

"Obviously, Bank of New York extended the tender offer to get more shares in," Falise said. But he said BONY ran the risk of losing tenders while the window remained open.

"Obviously, if a better competing offer is made by another party, or if shareholders that have tendered their shares change their minds, all or part can be withdrawn prior to the expiration date," he said.

Irving's board has approved an offer by BCI, a Milanese bank with more than \$60 billion in

assets, of \$75 cash per share for 45 per cent of Irving.

Most analysts see BONY's offer as superior.

Merrill Lynch analyst Lawrence Cohn said Friday: "Based on what I have seen so far, Banca Commerciale can't afford to raise the bid or is unwilling to."

New York State Supreme Court Judge Herman Cahn Friday ordered Irving to convene its annual meeting Saturday and adjourn it until May 6, when he said polls for the proxy fight would close.

Falise said the actual results of the vote probably would not be known for another 10 days or so after that.

Investment bankers for Irving and BONY met Friday morning by Falise said no details would be revealed.

"We're not going to be giving a progress report on talks held with Bank of New York or Banca Commerciale Italiana," he said.

Future of international coffee pact comes under scrutiny today

LONDON (R) — The fate of the International Coffee Agreement (ICA), one of the last surviving pacts to stabilise commodity prices, will be at issue in talks this week between importing and exporting countries.

The ICA, which expires in September 1989, uses export quotas to support coffee prices. It and an accord on rubber are the only such international agreements still operating.

After the collapse of the tin pact in 1985 and the recent suspension of the cocoa agreement's buffer stock, which has indefinitely crippled the agreement and sent prices tumbling, some consumer nations doubt whether such pacts can effectively regulate prices or are worth the cost or aggravation.

The International Coffee Organisation (ICO), gathering for its twice-yearly plenary council session starting Monday, is just beginning to think about the future of its agreement.

This week it will decide the procedure and timetable for renegotiating or extending the current pact, negotiated in 1983.

The ICO is unlikely to embark at this early stage on serious debate about what a new pact should include, delegates said.

But the forum gives members a chance to express preliminary views on how a new agreement should be shaped — or whether one is needed at all.

Leading figures including Brazilian Coffee Institute President Jorio Dauster, Colombia Coffee Growers' Federation Manager Jorge Cardenas, and Kenyan Agriculture Minister Elijah Mwangi will attend the talks.

Assistant U.S. Trade Representative Jon Rosenbaum will lead the U.S. delegation.

Many of the ICO's 24 import-

ing and 50 exporting member countries are still formulating their positions, but most seem to believe the accord has a future.

No commodity agreement has ever worked perfectly. ICO composite average coffee prices remain more than three U.S. cents below the pact's 120-140 cents a pound target range.

But consumers have political reasons for supporting the pact, which gives producers economic stability, delegates said.

Delegate sources say the largest producer, Brazil, favours extending the current accord.

But delegates have said Brazil can live without it, as its production costs are low and coffee accounts for only about 10 per cent of its export earnings.

Colombia, the second largest coffee producer, has announced it wants to extend the current pact.

But many consumers say that under the current pact, they can't get the types of coffees they want in the quantities they need.

They also complain about ICO members selling coffee to non-members at cheaper prices than they pay.

The United States, the largest ICO importer, has said it could live without an accord.

"One can never know if the

Ministry issues new transportation fares

AMMAN (Petra) — Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Sunday issued a new tariff for taxicab fares transporting tourists and other people from four or five star hotels in Amman to archaeological places in the country.

According to the new rates, a taxi fare from Amman to Petra and back to Amman will cost JD

50; Amman-Aqaba-Amman JD 58; Amman-Jerash-Amman, JD 18; Amman-Madaba-Mount Nebo-Amman JD 18; Amman-Dead Sea-Amman JD 18 and Amman-Desert Castles-Amman JD 40.

He also said that the fare of a rented car for 10 hours to stay within the Amman region will be JD 35 and that an hour's fare for a rented car will be JD 5.

Corporation to provide imported poultry meat

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Supply has provided the Civil Service Consumer Corporation with imported poultry meat which would be sold for the consumer at the rate of 600 fils per kilogramme, according to a ministry announcement Sunday.

The announcement said that the sale of imported poultry will last throughout the month of Ramadan only, and will overcome the present shortage of fresh poultry meat.

The ministry normally takes

such measure when poultry meat in the country is not sufficient for the markets, according to the announcement.

The announcement also said that the ministry is importing sufficient quantities of mutton and beef to suffice the needs of the local markets.

It said that the ministry is distributing 52 tonnes of mutton and 46 tonnes of beef daily to butchers during the month of Ramadan.

IDEC to electrify Irbid rural areas this year

IRBID (J.T.) — The Irbid District Electricity Company (IDEC) will this year complete a project for the electrification of the rural regions of Irbid by supplying power to nine new villages, according to IDEC engineer Abdul Ra'ouf Al Sheikh.

He said that the work will involve laying 23-kilovolt cables along 100 kilometres in different

regions and will improve the existing power network.

In addition, Al Sheikh said, the company is now involved in supplying power to the Ramtha industrial zone and carrying out a number of small schemes that involve the purchase of machinery and the installation of a computer and facsimile machines at its headquarters in Irbid.

Committee resolves 31 commercial disputes

AMMAN (J.T.) — An arbitration committee set up by the Amman Chamber of Commerce has settled 31 out of 70 cases brought to it in the first three months of 1988.

The committee comprises five members of the chamber's board, led by Haidar Murad who said that during the same period there were 38 complaints brought against Jordanian firms from Arab and foreign companies, and that the committee settled 15 of these cases.

Three of these cases have been

referred to other departments, five were cancelled and eight cases are still pending, Murad said.

He said that Jordanian companies have raised nine cases against Arab and foreign companies and that the committee has settled two of them so far.

The committee, he said, has received 23 cases in which Jordanian companies are complaining against compatriot companies and 14 of these cases have already been settled.

Superstition retains hold over Singapore's businesses

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore prides itself on being a sophisticated centre of high finance — but scratch the surface and another image appears.

Superstition is still a powerful influence in the island state, with some businessmen relying on ancient Chinese beliefs to guide their daily dealings as well as information blinked at them from electronic equipment.

Chinese make up 76 per cent of Singapore's 2.6 million people and many believe the lunar year of the Dragon which began last month will be lucky.

"The consensus seems to be that this will be a trading year in the stock market. There will be more gains from moving in and out of the market than simply leaving the money there," said the Straits Times in a review of the possible influences of "Dragon factors" on the money world.

The Business Times financial daily said in an editorial the Dragon was "the celestial power, the Chinese symbol of magnanimity, benevolence and many other things good."

"One can never know if the

secrets of the future are indeed hidden in the skies, in an almanac, on the palm, in tea leaves, in a stack of cards," it added.

"What is certain, however, is that belief can be an exceedingly powerful force. The people who believe will consciously or subconsciously take steps to make it good. The stock market is one place where this effect is clearly recognisable."

This year is also significant because of the double 8, which many Chinese consider lucky.

Restaurants and hotels report they are already fully booked for wedding banquets on Aug. 8 — 8-8-88 — a lucky combination which occurs only once a century.

Dealers expect quiet, nervous trading ahead for currencies

LONDON (R) — Dealers in currencies and stocks expect a quiet — but nervous — time ahead.

Six months after last October's global stock market crash led some to worry about a worldwide economic recession, most dealers and economists now fear inflation.

They were unsettled 10 days ago by news that the United States ran a bigger than expected trade deficit in February, fearing it signalled a consumer spending spree on imports that could eventually rekindle inflation.

And they'll be keeping a careful eye on this week's meetings, in Vienna, between OPEC and oil producing nations which are not members of the group.

But many are convinced that central banks are poised to intervene if currency rates start bouncing — no dealer likes to be at the other end of a telephone when a central banker is buying or selling currencies.

That should keep trading fairly quiet.

"The fundamentals do not support a stronger dollar and the central banks won't allow a lower dollar," said Frank Pusateri, assistant vice president at First National Bank of Boston.

The big change since October is that the fundamental factor worrying markets is the risk of inflation, not recession, argues Christopher Smallwood, economics editor of the Sunday Times, in London.

Recession worries — concerns confirmed by the Great Depression of the 1930s — sent share prices plunging half a year after the Wall Street crash in 1929.

"But in 1988, there are other reasons to expect the stock market slide to continue," Smallwood wrote.

"The odds are that the dollar will drop further as America continues to record huge trade deficits, and that this will trigger recurrent downward lurches on Wall Street as fears of higher inflation, and thus higher interest rates, intensify," he argued.

Bond markets

U.S. bond dealers already think higher interest rates are on the way — prices of bonds have been under pressure.

The lower the price of a bond, the higher the yield it pays its holders, since they have been able to buy at a discount paper that pays a fixed interest rate.

"The majority of people are betting on higher yields," said Charles Schaefer, of Irving Securities Corp., in New York.

He said a report, due Tuesday, on U.S. economic growth in the first quarter of 1988 could heighten fears that an American boom could lead to more inflation — too much money chasing too few goods.

Oil prices

Oil price rises have also worried dealers recently, as Brent crude oil from the North Sea continued to trade well above \$17 a barrel for most of last week.

Many believe that a worldwide glut of oil would offset the impact of any agreement the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and other producers might reach in Vienna.

Dealers say oil prices could be volatile this week — and if they rise enough, that could boost gold.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for April 24, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	83752	JD 113966	263
Top three companies:			
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	26200	JD 31332	86
Universal Chemical Industries	20150	JD 27536	87
Arab Bank Ltd.	70	JD 7993	2
Parallel market:	44695	JD 23337	
Developments bonds:	1155	JD 12008	
Treasury bills & bonds:			
Other debentures			

Rising pay for U.S. executives raises questions of propriety

NEW YORK (R) — The annual pay of America's corporate elite soared by 48 per cent last year, angering some labour leaders and raising questions about the propriety of salaries that reach into the millions.

The average compensation for the two top executives at 339 U.S. firms surveyed by the magazine Business Week was \$1.8 million.

Jim Manzi, the 36-year-old chairman of the computer software firm Lotus Development Corp., topped the list with 1987 salary and stock options of \$26.3 million.

Chrysler Corp. Chairman Lee Iacocca, even after a \$6 million pay cut, was ranked second with \$17.9 million, a figure that led United Auto Workers Vice President Marc Stepp to call Chrysler "selfish, greedy and insensitive."

Six other top executives earned more than \$10 million last year. But is anybody worth that much?

"Nobody's bothered by what Bill Cosby or Michael Jackson make," said Kevin Murphy, a University of Rochester business professor. TV star Cosby, Forbes magazine has estimated, earned some \$57 million last year.

"But that's because people are acutely aware that they're being paid for their performance," Murphy told Reuters. "CEOs (chief executive officers) are important, too, and can make firms swing in value by billions of dollars."

"And their high payments are often paltry compared to the gains for the company they make. I don't think Iacocca deserves even a small fraction of the flak he gets, if you consider the money that's gone to shareholders since he took over," he said.

But, said Wharton Business School Professor David Lardner, "it's very difficult to know what

the appropriate level of compensation for a chief executive is. There is no benchmark price."

Back in 1950, when Business Week's executive Pay Survey first appeared, the president of General Electric Co. had the highest pay package, totalling \$277,000. By 1960, General Motors Corp.'s chairman led the list at \$670,350 as he did in 1970, with \$790,000.

Lost in the debate over who gets what and what is too much, some analysts say, is the whole idea of how executive salaries are determined.

"I'm a great believer in high pay for high performance," said Graef Crystal, a professor at the Berkeley Business School in California. "What bothers me is that accompanying this high pay for high performance ought to be high risk," he said.

"The real abuse may lie with someone making a scant \$2 million to \$3 million a year but who has delivered zilch to shareholders," Crystal said. "That's the guy you should be hanging from the lightpole."

Executives' mammoth salaries often measure investment savvy more than managerial prowess.

Of the 25 top-paid executives surveyed by Business Week, all but two got most of their money by cashing in stock options at prices fixed previously and often far below the current value of the shares.

"Accountants have been holding a sale on (executive) stock options since 1950," said Crystal. "People have concluded that you can grant these options and don't have to charge your earnings one nickel," he said.

But, he added: "In effect, by giving a stock option, you have sold stock for less than it was worth, and anytime you sell property at a discount, you must incur some cost."

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Performances: 3:30, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

FINE MISS

Performances: 3:30, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Karpov bags Swift World Cup chess tourney

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Former world champion Anatoly Karpov won the Swift World Cup chess tournament on Friday with a draw against Ulf Andersson of Sweden in 62 moves.

Karpov won the \$20,000 first prize by scoring 11 points out of a possible 16, a point ahead of fellow Soviet Valery Salov.

Third place was shared by John Nunn of England, Yugoslav grandmaster Ljubomir Ljubojevic and Alexander Beliavsky of the Soviet Union each with 9.5 points.

Ljubojevic defeated Nunn in the final round to finish in shared third place.

Playing white against Andersson, Karpov gradually built a significant advantage and appeared poised to squeeze out a victory.

But the 36-year-old Soviet chose the wrong continuation near the end of the six and a half hour marathon and had to settle for a draw.

Despite the last round hiccup, some experts said Karpov's performance might pose a threat to Garri Kasparov who beat Karpov

in 1985 to become current world champion.

"He played very well. It was like the Karpov of 10 years ago," said Gennady Sosonko, a Dutch grandmaster.

The \$100,000 Brussels tournament was the first of six international events with a total prize fund of \$1.2 million, to be played over two years.

The series is organized by the Grandmaster's Association, a players' body set up in 1986 on the initiative of Kasparov. Each of the world's 25 leading grandmasters will compete in four of the events.

The winner of the World Cup will be the player with the best three results.

Ljubojevic defeated Nunn in 58 moves after reaching an endgame with a pawn more. They shared third place overall with Beliavsky who drew against Hungary's Gulya Sax.

Lajos Portisch of Hungary finished sixth equal with Andersson on nine points with nine points after holding Viktor Korchnoi to a draw with the black pieces.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Two killed in South American Rally

BOGOTA (R) — Two Chilean competitors died when their Toyota slammed into a tree during the Trans-Amazon Rally, organisers said Saturday. Sergio Raul Abuhaba and Jose Francisco Restucci were 30 kilometres short of the finish of the first stage between Cartagena and Cucuta Friday when they crashed. The rally, modelled on the Paris-Dakar event, covers 13,100 kilometres from Colombia to Argentina, passing through Ecuador, Peru and Chile.

Shock exit for fourth seed Martin

PARIS (R) — Australian Rodney Martin made a shock exit in the first round of the Paris Open Squash Championship Saturday only five days after appearing in the British Open final. Fourth seed Martin, troubled by a mystery virus, succumbed to veteran compatriot and ex-world number one Geoff Hunt 9-1, 9-5, 9-1. Hunt, Martin's coach and mentor, said: "I feel sorry for Rodney, he just could not move. I rather wished he had progressed instead of me." Martin said: "The virus came on a few days ago. I was not fit to play, but I gave it a go. It's a pity, but I fancied another crack at Jansher having beaten him last week." Reigning world champion Jansher Khan of Pakistan, sensationally beaten by Martin in the British Open, outclassed Welshman Adrian Davies 9-1, 9-0, 9-3. England prospect Chris Walker, ranked 60 in the world, beat 13th seed Jan-Ulf Soederberg of Sweden 9-7, 7-9, 9-2, 9-0.

Uganda draws 1-1 with Swazis

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — On a slippery field in a heavy rainstorm, home team sports club Villa kept Swaziland's Manzini Wanderers to a 1-1 draw, winning through to the second round of the Africa Cup Winners Cup soccer tournament. Rain that turned Kampala's Nakivubo stadium into a morass of mud speeded up play in the Saturday night return leg match. Villa beat Manzini 4-1 in the first leg match two weeks ago in Mbabane, the Swazi capital. The teams held each other to a goalless draw at the end of the first half Saturday, with the visitors storming into the lead in the 14th minute of the second half when Clement Madipuli scored.

Climbers advance despite member's death

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Despite the death of a Japanese team member, the other climbers in a joint China-Japan-Nepal Mount Everest expedition are progressing well, an expedition leader said Sunday. The leader said the group plans to reach the summit in early May and then descend down the other side of the world's highest mountain in an unprecedented feat. "Half a dozen of our men had already reached the South Col yesterday (Saturday)," said Michio Yuasa, the Japanese group leader of the expedition, after arriving at Katmandu airport by helicopter. The 7,985-metre-high (26,190-foot) South Col is the base for the team's final attack on Mount Everest's peak. The expedition plans one more camp about 300 metres (1,000 feet) below the summit, and expects to be on top of the mountain by May 5, Yuasa said.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Richter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A tendency to be argumentative or scheming should be controlled this morning, since you will later require the assistance of friends and co-workers. Don't put off making any important decisions.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Some tense moments early today could ruin your mood if you allow it, so try to remain objective. Have a pleasant night with your mate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Arguing over a problem at home will just make it more difficult to solve. This would be a good evening to entertain your good friends.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A friend may say something which will upset you, but keep in mind that this was said in anger and is not to be taken seriously.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't become involved in any arguments where finances are concerned. If you need advice, listen only to qualified persons.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) If you try to rectify a troublesome situation at this time, you will only make it worse. Be honest and forthright today, and make much progress.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Avoid a person who purposely tries to annoy you, and get busy at constructive matters. Sit down with your mate and plan your future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Although you may get off to a slow start this morning, you can get a great deal accomplished this afternoon if you apply yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you try to force others to accept your way of doing things, you will only alienate these individuals. Be sure to drive with great care.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you avoid an argument this morning, you can make real progress today. Take it easy at home tonight, and get plenty of rest.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Take care of any pressing responsibilities early today, then work on building up your financial security. Show more affection for your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A big opportunity to advance could be present today, so keep your eyes and ears open. Try to be more cooperative with your co-workers.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Fellow workers will help you to finish up a difficult project if you ask pleasantly. Don't let anyone draw you into a silly argument.

EUROPEAN FOOTBALL RESULTS

LONDON (AP) — Results of European football games played Saturday (aggregate scores in brackets):

English Division One		
Charlton Athletic	2	Newcastle United 0
Derby County	2	Southampton 0
Liverpool	1	Tottenham Hotspur 0
Oxford United	1	Everton 1
Portsmouth	2	Norwich City 2
Queen Park Rangers	1	Sheffield Wednesday 1
West Ham United	1	Coventry City 1
Wimbledon	2	Chelsea 2

French Cup		
Auxerre	2	Lille 1 (2-2, Lille win on away goal)
Nice	1	Toulouse 1 (2-2, Nice win on penalties)
Sochaux	1	Montpellier 0 (Sochaux 3-2)
Le Havre	1	Reims 0 (Le Havre 3-0)
Lens	1	Sète 0 (Lens 1-0)
Quimper	2	La Roche 2 (Quimper 5-3)
Creteil	0	Châtelleraut 0 (0-0, Châtelleraut win on penalties)

East German First Division		
Dynamo Berlin	1	Chemie Halle 2
Dynamo Dresden	3	Karl-Marx-Stadt 0
Lokomotiv Leipzig	2	Union Berlin 1
Wismut Aue	0	Carl Zeiss Jena 0
Rot-Weiss Erfurt	1	Stahl Riesa 0

Belgian First Division		
Beerschot	2	Lokeren 2
Winterslag	0	Mechelen 0
Ghent	0	Racing Jet 0
Beveren	0	Kortrijk 2
Anderlecht	6	Antwerp 0

Scottish Premier Division		
Aberdeen	0	Hearts 0
Celtic	3	Dundee 0
Dundee United	2	Dunfermline Athletic 2
Falkirk	1	Morton 1
Hibernian	1	Motherwell 1
St. Mirren	0	Rangers 3

First in 103-year history Luton wins English League Soccer Cup

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Luton Town, the soccer club that was thrown out of last year's competition over its ban on away supporters, edged defending titlist Arsenal 3-2 to win the Littlewoods Cup at Wembley stadium Sunday.

A last minute goal by Brian Stein and a penalty save by goalkeeper Andy Dibble enabled Luton to win its first major trophy after Arsenal had squandered a 2-1 lead.

A see-sawing final had four goals in a pulsating last 19 minutes.

Stein had given Luton an interval lead with a 13th minute strike, but Arsenal hit back to lead through goals by substitute Martin Hayes (71st min.) and Alan Smith (74th).

Arsenal then bombarded the Luton goal, hitting the crossbar and the post and seeing Dibble make three breathtaking saves.

The Welsh international goalkeeper also palmed away a penalty kick from Nigel Winterburn with ten minutes remaining to keep his side in the game.

In the dying minutes, Arsenal's superior fitness looked set to earn it a second consecutive title as the North London side retained possession.

But a mistake in the Arsenal defence allowed Danny Wilson to head home a short centre from Stein to level the score with eight minutes remaining.

The final looked set to go to extra time until Luton substitute Ashley Grimes floated over a centre from the right and Stein turned the ball into the net from eight metres.

The result gave Luton its first honour in its 103-year history.

Two-goal Brian Stein said: "It's a great day for the team, the fans and the town."

Milan beats Inter

In Rome, AC Milan, spurred by Dutch international Ruud Gullit, stepped up their Italian soccer League title bid with a 2-0 win against Internazionale, to move within a point of leaders Napoli Sunday.

While Diego Maradona's Napoli were held 1-1 at Verona, goals from Gullit and Antonio Virdis sealed Milan's supremacy in a classic derby watched by 80,000 fans in the San Siro stadium they share with Inter.

Milan's victory put them closer on the heels of defending champions Napoli than ever before this season and rose the excitement level for the clash of the championship when the two teams meet in Naples next Sunday.

Napoli, who were four points clear of sole challengers Milan only three matches ago, now have 42 points to Milan's 41.

Sampdoria, who drew 2-2 against Juventus, lie third on an unbridgeable eight points behind the leaders with three matches left this season.

Lendl overpowers Jaite to win Monte Carlo title

MONTE CARLO (Agencies) — World number one Ivan Lendl, playing his first tournament in two months, won the Monte Carlo open title when he defeated seventh seed Martin Jaite of Argentina 5-7, 6-4, 7-5, 6-3 Sunday.

Lendl, sidelined since the end of February by a stress fracture in his right foot, had considerable difficulty overcoming his 23-year-old opponent in a match which lasted 3 1/4 hours.

The Czechoslovak top seed made several mistakes during the match but finally proved too strong for Jaite and clinched the title for the second time, having won it the last time he played in the tournament in 1985.

Lendl broke Jaite's service in the opening game, but failed to capitalise on his advantage, staying back to battle it out from the baseline.

Jaite, growing more adventurous, broke back in the sixth game and had a chance to take the first set at 5-4 but hit his service return too long.

The Argentine, however, made no mistake when he earned his second set-point, hitting an awkward backhand which Lendl could not return.

Lendl gained an immediate break at the start of the second set as the first three games went against service, and appeared to be well on his way at 5-2 after breaking Jaite again.

But despite saving five break-points, Lendl failed to hold his service in the following game, and had to wait to the tenth game before squaring the match at one set all.

Jaite went 3-1 up in the third set when Lendl, in some disarray, double-faulted for the third time in the match.

But the Czech, visibly irritated by his mistakes, recovered quickly and reeled off four games in a row to lead 5-3, hitting two aces in the eighth game.

Jaite pulled back to 5-5 but dropped his service in the next game. Lendl squandered three set-points at 6-5, one with another double-fault, but staved off two break-points to clinch the set with an overhead smash.

Lendl closed in for the title when he broke Jaite in the fifth game of the fourth set.

He earned two match-points in the ninth, and although Jaite saved the first, he lost the match on the second when Lendl beat him with a forehand cross-court pass.

Evert, Navratilova reach finals

In Houston, Chris Evert defeated hometown favourite Zina Garrison 7-5, 6-2 Saturday night to set up a showdown in the finals of the Virginia Slims of Houston tennis tournament with top-seeded Martina Navratilova for the second straight year.

Earlier Saturday, Navratilova fought off the second set service breaking tactics of Ely Hakami for a 6-1, 6-3 victory.

Evert, who defeated Navratilova 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7-4) in last year's finals, will be trying to end a string of five consecutive tournament victories for Navratilova.

"I'm happy I reached the finals because I was supposed to beat all those players," Evert said. "Now the pressure is off, and I can hit out and play my game. I won last year but she's still the favourite. I just hope I can play loose."

Evert broke Garrison in the 11th game of the first set and held in the 12th game with a backhand down-the-line winner.

Garrison's final challenge came in the sixth game of the second set. She took Evert to a pair of deuces before Evert held when Garrison's backhand down the line was out.

Evert took a 40-0 lead in the final game, but double-faulted twice before ending the match on Garrison's error.

Navratilova leads the overall series with Evert 40-36, but Evert won their last meeting in the semifinals of the Australian Open.

"I have plenty of incentive to beat Chris because she won the last time, but I always save my best tennis for last," Navratilova said.

Navratilova broke Hakami in the second game of the final set when she chased down a drop shot by Hakami and returned it cross court for a winner at break point.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OUSHA SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ KQ7 ♣ Q9 ♢ KQ10
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass
What action do you take?
A.—You have a very good hand but, if you trust partner, you have no play for slam. Partner's jump is preemptive, showing good trumps and a singleton and denying, among other things, two aces. Therefore, there is no point to endangering your contract—Pass.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 6 ♣ Q108 ♢ J983 ♠ AK105
East South West North
3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass
What action do you take?
A.—While you can expect to rack up a tidy sum against three hearts doubled, you unfortunately cannot take that action. A double by you would be for takeout, and probably would get partner wildly excited in spades. Pass, and hope that partner can balance, preferably with a double since you know he is short in hearts.

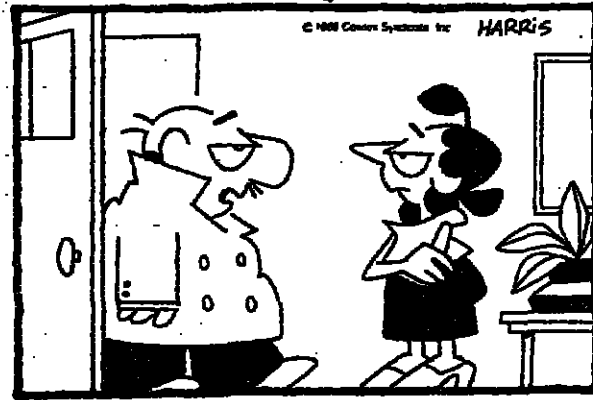
Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AKJ974 ♣ Q7 ♢ 632 ♠ AQ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—A borderline hand. You can't be sure how valuable your queen of hearts will be, but your two honors in partner's suit are pure gold. We think a jump to three spades best expresses the value of your hand and the quality of your suit.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AQJ632 ♣ 7542 ♢ 95 ♠ 83
Your partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
A.—You have found a fit, which is the purpose of the early rounds of the auction. A raise to two hearts by you describes both the strength of your hand and your support. Don't even think of introducing that splendid five-card spade suit, because your next bid in hearts will sound like a preference rather than solid support.

Q.5—Both vulnerable as South you hold:
♠ AQJ7632 ♣ 95 ♢ 106 ♠ 74
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?
A.—You know where you want to play the hand, so don't waste everyone's time—bid four spades. Don't jump to three spades. That would show either a holding where you are interested in slam or where you are not sure which game you want to play and are offering partner a choice of contracts.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 6 ♣ AJ53 ♢ K8 ♠ KQ10542
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—Partner's new suit is forcing, so you can't pass despite the misfit. Make your normal bid of two hearts, the suit you couldn't afford to show at your second turn because that would have been a reverse, promising extra values. Besides showing your stoppers, your bid in hearts will highlight the potential misfit.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"All the way home from work the motor kept conking out. Not the car's motor — mine!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

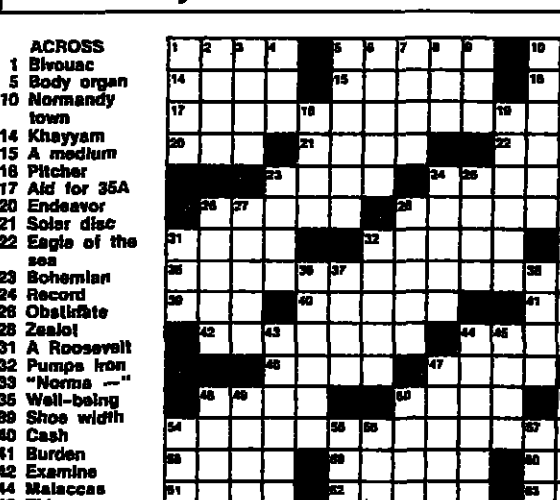
CAXTE
GOUBS
PONISH
TRALEY

Answer here: A

Yestarday's Jumbles: YOUNG SIEGE GOODLY OBLONG

Answer: What do you call a wet pup? — A SOGGY DOGGY

THE Daily Crossword by Bernard Meren



Yestarday's Puzzle Solved:

1. Outer garment
2. Part of USA
3. Bloody
4. Money player
5. Courageous
6. "Cagney" figure
7. Arab port
8. Veto
9. Dear
10. Arcane
11. One of two
12. Majority
13. Gales is one
14. Canine call
15. Happy — lark
16. A way to
17. achieve 35A
18. Candy
19. Ears or Juan
20. Movie part
21. Painful
22. Benums
23. Military cap
24. Secular
25. Engraving
26. Mastic Pictish
27. "Bring on
28. the —
29. Pulitzer prize
30. author
31. Bandleader
32. Fields
33. Quattrin's husband
34. FRS org.
35. Harvest
36. goddess
37. Butterfly
38. catcher
39. Annoy

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Hunt for hostages continues

Violence marks election in New Caledonia

NOUMEA, New Caledonia (AP) — Two gendarmes were shot and six others injured by explosives in clashes with separatists Sunday as New Caledonians went to the polls to vote in France's presidential elections.

Polls closed at 6 p.m. (1700 GMT) in the French Pacific island territory, just as those in metropolitan France were opening. New Caledonia and the tiny French islands of Wallis and Futuna were the first to cast ballots, choosing between nine presidential contenders.

One officer was shot in the abdomen while guarding a polling station in Canala, on the island's east coast. He was listed in serious condition at a hospital in Noumea. The other officer was injured before polls opened in Pouembout, on the main island's west coast, 160 kilometres north of Noumea.

Police in Noumea said that Melanesian separatists erected barricades in several villages to disrupt voting. At a barricade on the highway outside Canala, six gendarmes were injured, including one seriously, in fighting with separatists.

A spokesman for the national gendarmerie said the officers

were hurt by "thrown explosives" and were taken to a hospital in Noumea.

No details were provided. It was not known if any separatists were injured in the clash.

Shots were fired at police at other places on the island without causing any injuries.

Authorities chose not to open 38 of the 139 polling places that were considered likely targets for violence.

In other parts of the island archipelago, ballots were burned, telephone lines were cut and police used tear gas to disperse crowds of protesters.

New Caledonians were casting votes both for president and for a new territorial assembly created by Chirac's government over the objections of militant native Melanesians, known as Kanaks, who make up 43 per cent of the island's population.

Thirty-six per cent of the residents are Europeans, while the

rest are primarily Asian or Tahitian.

A reinforcement of 80 gendarmes from Paris were expected in the territory Monday as Bernard Pons, minister for overseas territories.

Pons was dispatched Saturday by Chirac following an attack at a police station Friday during which a group of Melanesians killed three police officers and took 27 gendarmes hostage.

The kidnappers' demands included the cancellation of the regional elections and the removal of police reinforcements from the island. They also demanded that negotiators be sent from Paris to discuss independence for the island.

Hundreds of police combed a forest in northern New Caledonia Saturday, searching for the attackers and their captives who were believed to have divided up into groups to hide in the forest.

A spokesman for the separatists said the kidnappers were "ready to keep them (the gendarmes) as long as necessary."

The search continued Sunday, although police declined to provide details. A contingent of 180 police reinforcements arrived on the island Sunday morning.

Najibullah seeks balanced end to arms supplies

KABUL (R) — Afghan President Najibullah Sunday backed the idea of a balanced cut in arms supplies by the Soviet Union and the United States. It was the first time Najibullah had openly said his government might be prepared to forgo further Soviet supplies.

"We accept an identical form of symmetry," he told a non-governmental conference of U.S., Soviet and Afghan scholars.

The Geneva accord signed this month, under which Soviet troops will start leaving Afghanistan on May 15, does not provide for an end to arms supplies from the superpowers.

Najibullah, also for the first time since the Geneva accord, specifically accepted that if Soviet military aid to the Afghan government continued there would be a proportionate continuation of U.S. arms supplies to Afghan rebels, usually supplied via Pakistan.

"There must be a cutoff of aid — let us say it in a positive way — if for example there must be a cutoff of aid for the Afghan government, then there must be a symmetrical cutoff of all American aid that is relayed to the Pakistani government," he said, speaking through an interpreter.

Addressing the conference, organised by the Afghan Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organisation, the Afghan leader criticised the deal under which the United States is to supply \$4.02 billion worth of military equipment to Islamabad.

Analysts in Kabul say the government here is increasingly concerned over such a massive stockpiling of arms on its southern border in view of the impending Soviet troop withdrawal, due to be completed in nine months.

'30,000 held since emergency imposed in South Africa'

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — About 30,000 people have been arrested in South Africa under 22-month-old emergency regulations and only a tiny fraction have been charged, let alone convicted, a conference on apartheid heard Saturday.

At one stage, 40 per cent of the detainees were under the age of 18, David Webster, a South African anthropology lecturer, told the day-long conference at Johannesburg's Witwatersrand University.

The conference focused on child detainees and heard from two teenage youths who had been held by police.

Webster, who lectures at Witwatersrand and has carried out private research on detainees, said that 30,000 people, almost all of them black, had been held for varying periods since June 1986 when a nationwide state of emergency was imposed to quell revolt among South Africa's 25 million blacks.

"There appear to be about 2,500 to 3,000 now under detention," said Webster, a leading member of the Detainees Parents Support Committee, one of 17 anti-apartheid organisations virtually banned by the government in February.

Pretoria periodically issues lists of people being held, but the totals do not include many short-term detainees and are dismissed by civil rights groups as being far too low.

The level of violence in the black townships has subsided considerably, but the government has said it does not intend to lift the state of emergency yet, saying the threat of upheaval is still strong.

Webster said that only 1.22 per cent of detainees held under emergency laws had been charged and convicted.

"The security police are trying to cover up the oppression they are engaged in," he said.

Webster said the number of detainees was going down, but was still averaging 16 per day. The proportion of detainees under 18 was also down, Webster said, adding that international outcries about child detainees were partly responsible for the reduction.

While detentions were fewer, other forms of oppression in the form of black vigilante groups had arisen, he said.

"(There are) pro-apartheid groups who frankly are no better than the death squads in Argentina," he said.

Lawyer Kathy Satchwell, who has represented child detainees, told the conference about regulations under which children can be held in solitary confinement with no visits from their family.

"In this country we have a civil war, and the present government seems to regard children as their enemy," she said.

Mistreatment in detention

Two black youths told the conference that they were frequently assaulted while in police detention, and one said his injuries were so severe he needed an operation to halt internal bleeding.

One youth said he was detained at the age of 16 for 10 months, spent most of his time in solitary confinement and was not allowed to see his family until after he had been held several months. He also charged that he was assaulted and that police stuck him with needles.

Another former detainee, speaking through an interpreter, said police administered electric shock treatments and beat him until he eventually needed an operation to stop internal bleeding. He said he was released from custody after the operation.

Armenians mark remembrance day

MOSCOW (R) — Thousands of people, many of them women dressed in black, took flowers Sunday to a monument in Yerevan to victims of a 1915 massacre of Armenians, local residents said.

The annual procession to the "Genocide Monument," in memory of 1.5 million Armenians said to have been killed by the Turks, took on added significance this year as Armenians also remembered victims of ethnic riots in the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait in February.

Turkey denies a massacre took place in 1915. Armenians say killings reached a peak on April 24 of that year.

Soviet officials say 26 Armenians were among 32 people who died in Sumgait during a night of violence on Feb. 28, but Armenians say the death toll was higher.

"All the streets to the monument are packed this morning," said one woman in a telephone call from the Armenian capital.

"I will wait a couple of hours until it gets quieter and then take my flowers."

Police were out in force as people filed up the steps to the monument, a light grey cupola on a hill overlooking the ancient city.

But the woman said she had seen no troops and, so far, no political slogans.

Up to a million people rallied in Yerevan in February in support of ethnic Armenians in the

Azerbaijani region of Nagorno-Karabakh, who are demanding reunification with Armenia.

The Sumgait riots followed. The Kremlin, faced with the most serious nationalist challenge since the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, made clear it was not prepared to consider any redrawing of boundaries between Armenia and Azerbaijan, which has controlled Nagorno-Karabakh since 1923.

A ban on demonstrations was still in force in Yerevan, which is closed to foreign correspondents, but the procession to the monument had been allowed to go ahead according to tradition, residents said.

In past years, Armenian Communist leader Karen Demichryan has laid a wreath at the monument and was likely to do so again this Sunday.

The Armenians boast the oldest Christian Church in the world and live uneasily alongside their traditionally Muslim Azerbaijani neighbours, partly because of memories of the Muslim Turks. Armenians were also due to gather at the Armenian church in Moscow Sunday.

But in Stepanakert, capital of the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, all was quiet, according to local Communist officials.

A wave of strikes which broke out in March had ended and Sunday were enjoying a relaxed day at home, one official said in a telephone call from party headquarters there.

Ethnic relations revived

Meanwhile in Kazakhstan, where riots broke out in 1986, offices dealing with ethnic relations have been revived in the propaganda departments of Communist Party committees at all levels, according to the republic's leader, Gennady Kolbin.

Such an apparatus existed before the 1930s, he told the Communist Party daily Pravda.

Panama close to 'chaos' unless sanctions lifted

PANAMA CITY (AP) — Panama's economy is being destroyed and is only weeks away from chaos unless U.S. sanctions are lifted, Archbishop Gregorio McGrath said.

The archbishop called Saturday for urgent dialogue to resolve the crisis. Some talks are being held, but "they are not the really effective conversations that carry commitment that the nation needs," he said speaking to reporters.

"In two or three weeks there will be chaos in this country" if the sanctions are not lifted, McGrath said.

Panama's Roman Catholic hierarchy called on the Reagan administration Friday to end its sanctions. An eight-page pastoral letter signed by the archbishop

and the nation's 10 bishops described the sanctions as the cause of "misery and desperation" for thousands. The letter said they go beyond "any strategy of political pressure and constitute by themselves a threat to the life of our people."

The target of the sanctions, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, was quoted Saturday as saying he could retire any time, but that caving in to U.S. pressure to resign would have a domino effect on the rest of Latin America.

"Gen. Noriega can go any day, on Aug. 12, Nov. 3, Dec. 19, the first of January, 1989," the armed forces chief and Panama's de facto ruler said in an interview

Poll: Most blacks to vote Democrat without Jackson on ticket

PHILADELPHIA (R) — A major poll showed Saturday that most blacks would vote for the Democratic presidential ticket even if Jesse Jackson is left off it, apparently contradicting some conventional political wisdom.

The poll, commissioned by Newsweek magazine, showed that 79 per cent of blacks questioned would like to see Jackson as the presidential candidate, while 70 per cent also thought he was qualified to be vice-president.

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis — following his defeat of Jackson in the New York primary Tuesday — holds a commanding lead over the black leader for the party's nomination to face Vice-President George Bush, the likely Republican nominee.

Both Dukakis and Jackson — the remaining Democratic rivals — campaigned through Pennsylvania Saturday.

At a Saturday night debate outside Pittsburgh, the two candidates sparred gently in their second one-on-one debate over two nights.

Jackson attempted to get the governor to spell out details of how he would pay for his domestic spending programmes.

Dukakis had been criticised during earlier debates by other candidates, before they dropped out, for lack of detail on his

budget.

A centrepiece of Jackson's budget plans has been a five-year freeze on defence spending. Dukakis said he would raise money in a tight budgetary situation by collecting some \$100 billion in unpaid taxes, a figure called unrealistic by Washington critics.

In the Newsweek poll, nearly 70 per cent of respondents thought Jackson would help the party as vice president.

Campaigning Saturday, Dukakis again said he did not believe that a black vice president would hurt the ticket but refused to say if he has Jackson in mind as a running mate.

The poll said 72 per cent of blacks would vote for the Democratic ticket even if Jackson did not win the nomination and was passed over for the second spot.

A University of Pennsylvania political scientist, Michael Young, said that blacks may not vote at all if they feel Jackson was snubbed. Others have said the same thing.

A majority in the poll also agreed that Jackson should now be given a much more important role in the Democratic Party, either a major job in running the presidential election campaign or running the party, having a strong input on the major issues, or influencing cabinet appointments.

Search for 28 lost in tanker incident suspended

ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland (R) — The U.S. Coast Guard Saturday suspended a 36,000-square-kilometre search in the North Atlantic for survivors of a Greek-owned tanker that broke up in flames.

"If something comes up that makes us believe there's someone out there, we'd activate the search again," a Coast Guard spokesman told Reuters in New York. "But nothing has been spotted since the one body was recovered Friday evening."

The tanker Athenian Venture was carrying 29 Poles when it apparently exploded about 600 km. southeast of Cape Race, Newfoundland, late Thursday.

Searchers have recovered the badly burned body of crewman Andrej Szukalski, 41, who was believed to have been on the tanker's bridge at the time of the blast.

Lieutenant-Commander Kent Fisher, a U.S. Coast Guard official, said that while the cause of the fire was unknown, the condition of Szukalski's body pointed to an explosion that quickly engulfed the tanker.

"The suggestion there is that either the individual was forced over the side or went over the side in such haste that he didn't have time to prepare," said Fisher.

Trial of potential vaccine

LONDON (R) — British scientists are to launch the first systematic trial in Europe of a potential vaccine against AIDS, the doctor leading the project said Saturday. Dr. Brian Gazzard, head of the AIDS unit at St. Stephen's Hospital, West London, said 24 volunteers would be treated in the first phase of the study due to begin in the summer.

"We are hoping that the vaccine will be totally non-toxic and that it may produce neutralising antibodies against the (AIDS) virus," he told Reuters. Gazzard said the vaccine, which will be administered once a month for three months, could be given to people infected with the HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) which causes AIDS, as well as those free of it but in high-risk groups.

He said if the vaccine proved non-toxic, a much broader trial would be launched. But he stressed that no great breakthrough was yet in sight and said it was unlikely that any vaccine could be on the market for at least five years.

Paying for a 'part' of Warhol

NEW YORK (R) — Young punk rockers bid against elderly ladies and others Saturday for a piece of Andy Warhol's legacy at the opening of a 10-day auction of the late artist's belongings. "People want a part of him," said Bianca Barzvi, who has also been to auctions for the belongings of Rock Hudson, Joan Crawford, Gypsy Rose Lee and Gloria Swanson. Warhol's Art Nouveau and Art Deco furniture and silver

were the first items up for grabs, with a wood table bringing in \$275,000, an armchair \$154,000 and a silver, gold and enamel ring \$154,000. Silver dealer Art Kaplan said the prices were more than three and four times what the pieces were actually worth. "I came to buy," he said, "but these prices are absolutely and ridiculously out of line."

China to show 'The Last Emperor'

PEKING (R) — Chinese cinemas will screen the Oscar-winning film "The Last Emperor" despite controversy over its depiction of history, sex scenes and use of the forbidden city for location shooting. The movie by Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci, which won nine Academy Awards, is being dubbed into Chinese and will be shown nationwide in June. The New China News Agency said Thursday. "But whether the movie is acceptable to the Chinese audience remains a question," the agency added.

Goethe Institute balks at 'Dachau' address

MUNICH (R) — The Goethe Institute, responsible for spreading West Germany's cultural image abroad, is having second thoughts about a planned move to a Munich street bearing the name of the notorious former Nazi death camp at Dachau. Institute Spokesman Kajo Niggstedt told Reuters Friday that foreign associates of the institute had complained about proposals to build a new administrative headquarters in "Dachauer Strasse." Dachau is a town near Munich, but Niggstedt said the name's association with the Dachau concentration camp would be a burden for the cultural organisation, which has institutes in many countries of the world. He stressed that concern about the new address, which would cause "noises to wrinkle" when people saw it on the institute's letterhead, had come from outside the country.

'Do the best you can'

LOS ANGELES (R) — A 75-year-old former bank chairman who admitted defrauding elderly investors of over one million dollars was sentenced to 20 years in jail Wednesday unless he made full restitution. "You have a chance to get out and live a decent life if you come clean," Judge Andrew Hanft told Monroe Marlowe. "If not, you may not be able to serve the entire sentence — but do the best you can." Hanft promised to consider reducing the sentence if Marlowe paid full restitution to his victims. Marlowe, former head of the Valley State Bank of Encino, pleaded guilty in February to inducing elderly customers to invest in a real estate scheme he claimed would pay them high interest. Prosecutors said he had most of the money

Smoking banned on most U.S. airline flights

WASHINGTON (R) — Smoking was banned on most U.S. airline domestic flights Saturday under a law providing a \$1,000 fine for lighting up in the sky.

Some airlines said they would try to ease the agony of abstinence by giving out free chocolate and gum to die-hard smokers.

The ban applies to all flights of two hours or less, about 80 per cent of all scheduled domestic flights.

Northwest Airlines has gone even further, banning smoking on all its flights in the United States and Canada except those to and from Hawaii.

Under the law, which was passed by Congress last year and expires in 1990, airlines must tell passengers before takeoff that smoking is prohibited and must keep "No Smoking" signs lighted

for the duration of flights. The ban will be in effect even on flights that are delayed beyond two hours.

Anyone caught smoking on affected flights can be fined up to \$1,000 for each violation. The law provides for a \$2,000 fine for anyone who disables a smoke detector in an airliner lavatory.

Opponents of the smoking ban said it would be difficult to enforce and might lead some passengers to smoke in lavatories.

Airlines have briefed their employees on how to deal with rebellious smokers. The carriers hope informing a smoker about the law will be enough to avoid problems.

Sponsors in Congress say they hope to make the law permanent and expanded it to all flights.

"If it's sensible on two-hour flights, then it's sensible on longer

flights," Congressman Richard Durbin said in a statement.

Senator Frank Lautenberg said: "My guess is that two years from now there will be very few travellers or members of Congress who want to return to the old days when cigarette smoke was an unwelcome airline passenger."

Lautenberg and Durbin said they supported the smoking ban because of studies which found nonsmokers suffered when they breathed smoke in enclosed areas. The tobacco industry says there is no proof that smoke in the air endangers nonsmokers.

Lautenberg said: "Flight attendants and passengers are entitled to work and travel in a safe environment. Prohibiting smoking is as much a safety and health requirement as fastening seat belts."

The group is now waiting for U.S. Department of Transportation approval, but Cohlilia said he hopes the business will take off in May.

Cohlilia said he expects his high-flying smokers' club to service about 60 cities in two years' time. He declined to say how much it would cost to set up and expand, but said he had not received any funds from the tobacco industry.

He said that in passing the no-smoking rule, the U.S. Congress had "created a new business they didn't intend to."

"I have very little time for Congress," he said. "They're all attorneys and attorneys never do anything but sue or run for Congress."

Airline club flies in face of no-smoking trend

By Peter Elsworth
Reuter

DALLAS (R) — While most smokers plan to accept new U.S. restrictions against smoking in airplanes, the Great American Smokers Club is flying in the opposite direction.

With some 6,000 members, the club intends to take to the air in the near future with two chartered planes flying 10 times a day between Dallas and Houston.

All the 100 or so passengers on each trip will be allowed to smoke as much as they want, according to Chairman Key Cohlilia, a 2½-pack-a-day man.

"It's a rights movement, the government has infringed on our civil rights," he told Reuters in an interview. "People who smoke

contribute billions of dollars to the state in taxes. We paid for our rights."

As of April 23, smoking on any flight of two hours or less in the United States is prohibited by federal law. Charter flights and those involving travel clubs, such as the Great American Smokers Club, are exempt.

Cohlilia said he has 6,000 members so far, each one paying \$10 for one year's membership, including some nonsmokers.

"Some (nonsmokers) joined for the rights issue and others joined to say we want to help to get smokers off our airline," he said.

Cohlilia, aged 53, is himself a pilot but said the club would charter planes and leave the flying to others.

Yuppies move in, locals move out, in London's inner city

By Gill Tudor
Reuter

LONDON — The grubby South London district of Brixton, once a byword for inner city deprivation, crime and racial tension, is going up-market.

In 1981 and again in 1985, the area exploded into rioting which saw dozens injured as gangs of angry youths overturned cars, looted shops and set buildings ablaze.

An independent inquiry under senior Judge Lord Scarman called Brixton "an area of severe deprivation, marked by environmental decay and riddled with mounting crime and violence."

But now Brixton — barely five kilometres from Central London and ideally placed for public transport, parks and other amenities — has become the latest focus for "gentrification" as middle-class newcomers pour in, eager to buy homes close to Central London.

"It's become trendy to live in the inner cities," a local estate agent said. "At the moment Brixton's definitely the up-and-coming place."

A rash of new bars and restaurants has appeared catering for the more affluent pockets of the newly arrived Yuppies, or Young Upwardly-Mobile Professionals.

Forests of "For Sale" boards have sprouted along the 19th century terraced streets and house prices have rocketed, seemingly unaffected by last October's stock market crash.

In November 1985, one two-bedroomed Brixton flat was sold for £31,000 (\$58,000). By the end

of last year the same flat was valued at £64,000 (\$120,000), more than doubling in price in two years.

Cases like this are not exceptional. Figures from Brixton's local council, Lambeth, show property prices there rose by an average of 15 per cent between November 1986 and May 1987 alone — twice the national average over the same period and one fifth faster than house prices in London as a whole.

The estate agent, who preferred not to be named, said prices in Brixton began to creep up after the 1981 riots, when people realised it was a depressed but central area where housing was still relatively cheap.

"It put Brixton on the map," she said. "No one had ever heard of it before. People are always looking for the cheapest area, but once it's known to be cheap prices go up."

The 1985 riots, coupled with a property boom in neighbouring Clapham, set the seal on the area's popularity.

Discontent brewing

But discontent is brewing beneath the apparent facelift.

Brixton's commercial centre has remained in limbo despite the affluence of many of its new residents. A major new supermarket brings shoppers from miles around, but one of Britain's main High Street banks, Lloyd's, is about to pull out on what it says are economic grounds.

The mood in the local market is depressed. "They won't bring Brixton back to what it was — it's dead," one stallholder said.

In the 19th century Brixton was

regarded as one of London's smartest suburbs. But by the 1920s most of its mansions had been converted into rented flats, boarding houses or single room bed-sitting rooms, and landlord neglect led to squalid conditions.

Black people arriving in Britain from former colonies in the late 1950s and 1960s found Brixton was one of the few areas where they could afford to live.

Conditions were grim — some had to take turns sleeping on a shared bed — and prejudice was rife.

Most observers saw the early 1980s riots as uprisings against poverty, unemployment and alleged racist policing in an area where roughly a third of the population is black.

In 1985, official figures showed a third of households in the area were living on or below the poverty line. About a quarter of its workforce is unemployed.

Lambeth Council leader Linda Bellos said escalating house prices were now driving many local people out of the area.

"I'm not saying that it's all got to be solidly working class and we don't want anyone else to be here," she said. "Nobody's saying that."

"But the problem is that people coming in are bidding up the cost of housing to such an extent that working class people who want to buy their own homes are not able to."

Family structure destroyed

Many young people who had grown up in Brixton could no longer afford to set up home round the corner from their parents and were being forced to

move long distances to cheaper outer suburbs like Croydon, she said.

This in turn was destroying the structure of the traditional extended working class family among whites and blacks alike.

"The implications for our community are grim and grave," Bellos said. "It's creating wealth — but for whom?"

Police said Brixton had seen very little of the overt hostility found in parts of London's East End, where cars have been vandalised and walls daubed with anti-Yuppie graffiti.